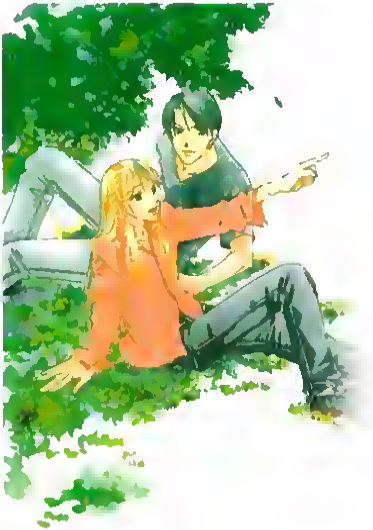

Saigo no Shou Scanlations

presents

Boku wa Ne chapter 9

by Fujiwara Kyo

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Boku wa Ne

volume 3

Fujiwara Kiyo

Table of Contents

Boku wa Ne.....3
Sunday People.....175

BOKU WA NE

Waah~ Thank you~
Aki-Aki! You're just like me!
COME TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!
AKI-CHAN! DAD!
Today is December 24th
SPLASH
Right now we're
relaxing in an onsen.* ♡
THE STARS ARE SO BEAUTIFUL.
Yes, it's really are!
*"ONSEN" = HOT SPRING RESORT

Zero!
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
8 !!!!
This is a yearly tradition,
but the main reason isn't Christmas.
1
2
3
DAD!
YOU'VE FINALLY REACHED THE DOUBLE DIGITS.
MY DEAR SON HAS GROWN UP.

KISS
TETSUTA,
Happy Birthday! ♡
NII-CHAN,
I'm exactly 10 years old. ♡
hug
while everyone is celebrating Christmas Eve this year,
That's right On December 24,
WOAH! WHAT?!
SENPAI! DON'T BE SELFISH! I WANT TO HUG HIM TOO!
ME TOO!
SPLASH
HUG
SPLASH
CLUNK
HEY!
HELP ME CARRY THIS TRAY OF SAKE* TO AKECHI-SAN IN THE MAPLE ROOM
*SAKE = RICE WINE
STEP
HELP ME!
ME, ME, ME! LET ME GO!!!
!?
STEP
STEP
STEP
AH, OKAY ...
HUH?
Ouch
THIS..., WHAT'S UP WITH THIS?
Those girls
Not again
YOU'RE A NEW WORKER, AREN'T YOU?

AKECHI-SAN IS AN OLD CUSTOMER OF OUR ONSEN. HE COMES HERE EVERY YEAR.
HE'S INCREDIBLY HANDSOME, SO ALL HIS VISITS CAUSE QUITE A COMMOTION.
I SEE...
Seeing him gives me a vivid feeling that a year has passed.
KYA KYA
Not fair! You already got to take him to his room!
Let me have a turn!
Hey!
BUT, IT'S VERY TROUBLE-SOME.
HANDS OVER.
Ah!
LET ME GO!
THE PEOPLE FROM THE MAPLE ROOM ARE IN THE BATH RIGHT NOW,
WOMEN AREN'T ALLOWED!
BUT THAT'S WHY WE WANTED TO GO...
NOSY.
HMPH
ALREADY DID THEIR RESEARCH
CLATTER
HAHA, THAT BATH WAS VERY COMFORT-ABLE.
I'LL BE THE JUDGE OF THAT AFTER I MEET HIM.
HAND-SOME?
BUT WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT THAT THIS PLACE...

HAS A MIXED BATH!
WHAT?!
WE WERE REALLY LUCKY!
Want to go again?
Boss!
MIXED BATH?
WE DON'T HAVE A MIXED BATH HERE.
HOW COULD THIS BE?
AH! ♡ YOU'RE HERE! I'VE BEEN WAITING FOREVER.
DAD! YOU ORDERED SAKE?
Yup ♡
SFX CLATTER
What do you mean "yup"?
AKI-CHAN, SAY SOMETHING!
MIXED ...

MEN
Dad...
Just let it go this once!
THIS IS THE MEN'S BATH
WHAT IS A WOMAN DOING HERE?!
But I've already ordered it—
DRINKING SAKE WHILE YOU'RE BATHING IS UNHEALTHY
Don't drink it.
MIXED BATH !!!
BEGGING WITH A PUPPY FACE
Then, pretty please! ♡
I'LL LET IT SLIDE THIS TIME,
BUT DON'T DO IT AGAIN.
AH!
AKI-CHAN! YOU'RE TOO EASY ON HIM!
Aki-Aki-chan
Hoo-rah!

HUH?
OTHERWISE, SHE'D NEVER HAVE COME BY HERSELF!
...YOU SHOULD'VE STOOD UP TO HIM MORE!
Heh, heh, come battle with me! I don't wanna!
SO THEY'RE MARRIED ...
HER HUSBAND MUST HAVE FORCED HER.
THANK YOU.

I SEE!
HE ISN'T USUALLY THIS SELFISH,
BUT TODAY IS SPECIAL...

IS HE TALKING ABOUT THE SAKE?
I'M SORRY; YOU MUST'VE THOUGHT IT WAS SILLY.
AW

HER HUSBAND FORCED HER INTO THIS !!!
Ah, don't act like this.
It's no big deal!
Today is Christmas Eve!
Imagination

SIGN: MEN
Really
Hey— What's that supposed to mean?!
I'm sorry we're resting inside right now.
男
SEEING THOSE FEMALE WORKER'S REACTIONS MADE ME THINK THAT HE WAS A PRETTY AMAZING MAN.
This is heaven!
Ahhh
THAT LOWLIFE!!!
There are children here too!
CLATTER
Whew— That was so relaxing—
HE'S NOTHING MORE THAN A
DEPRIVED PERVERT!
*CUSTOMER
OKYAKU-SAN!*
Just hand that to me.
AH, YOU'RE FROM EARLIER..
Right!
IT FELT LIKE WE WERE THE ONLY ONES IN THERE
RIGHT?

SMILE
THANK YOU. IT WAS DELICIOUS. ♡
WHOA
SHE SMILED AT ME! ♡
WHAT IS IT?
YOUR WIFE'S HUSBAND?
Didn't he come out with you?
GLANCES AROUND
La ♡
I WAS GETTING DIZZY FROM BATHING TOO LONG SO I CAME OUT FIRST
MY HUSBAND ?!
!?
SPX HA HA HA HA
CHUCKLE
SENPAI AND I...
AREN'T MARRIED!
We're just good friends ♡
Huh?

You even ate together
I GUESS I MISUNDERSTOOD.
I'M VERY...
Really ?!
SO THAT'S HOW IT IS... YOU GUYS SEEM TO GET ALONG REALLY WELL
YOU GUYS LOOKED LIKE ONE BIG HAPPY FAMILY.
SFX: HUG
がばっ
Thank you!!
Whoa...
We were complimented♡
I wanna hug too!
WHOA
...

Yeah ♡
Yeah
SHE'S SO ADORABLE!
SENPAI.
He's here!
!!
SORRY, DID YOU WAIT A LONG TIME?
NOT AT ALL BESIDES, I HAD AYA-CHAN TO KEEP ME COMPANY.
It's fine
AKI-CHAN
Sorry you had to wait so long
AH... TOO CUTE FOR WORDS
BLUSH
CLICK
CLICK
AH ♡
TO THINK THAT SUCH AN ADORABLE SMILE BELONGS TO THAT DEPRIVED MAN
Life is so unfair
BUT SINCE THEY'RE NOT MARRIED, I STILL HAVE A CHANCE!

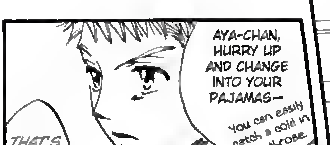
HUH?
...DRUNK?
STEP
STEP
We should leave now!
Could Aki-chan have gotten drunk off the smell?
Why? Aki didn't touch the wine...
Ah
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOU.
LET'S GO SOBER YOU UP!
Kanata
STAGGER
WHA..?
FLUTTER
SENPAI.
WAS THAT ON PURPOSE?! IT MUST'VE BEEN ON PURPOSE! THAT BASTARD
...Huh?
Why does this guy matter?
IRRITABLE
BUT
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER FOR US TO GO BACK TO OUR ROOM?

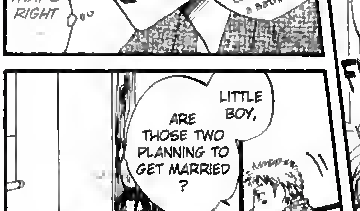
...AH, THAT'S RIGHT!
TONIGHT'S MAIN EVENT IS YET TO COME!
Remember
CHUCKLE
IDIOT.
DON'T WORRY, I'M FINE ..
Probably
TETSUTA, YOU GUYS SHOULD HEAD BACK TO THE ROOM AND GET SOME SLEEP!
AKI-CHAN, ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
What's that supposed to mean?
HUH?
. UM..
WHERE ARE YOU TWO GOING?
WE WERE GOING TO PLAY CARDS TOGETHER! I EVEN BROUGHT A PACK OF POKER CARDS!!!
AND WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, COULD YOU PUT OUT THE FUTONS TOO?
SIR, COULD YOU PLEASE ESCORT THEM BACK TO THEIR ROOM?
Who
Hey!
TETSUTA AYA.

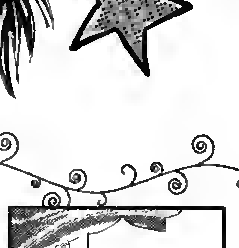
IF YOU GUYS DON'T BEHAVE, SANTA CLAUS WON'T COME
FLI NCH
WE'RE GOING TO BED NOW!
STEP
OK, GOOD NIGHT
Ok
That's a good boy
STEP
STEP
HM
AH, ONE MORE THING.
I NEED YOU TO GET SOMETHING FOR ME
It's behind the front
... I'LL GO GET IT
WHAT ARE YOU PLANNING TO DO?

*TRANSLATION FOR THIS IS WEIRD SINCE IT'S LITERALLY "SELF TAKE OUT WAIST BAG"

I ONLY WEAR THE COSTUME IN CASE THEY WAKE UP WHILE I'M THERE.
THEIR IMAGINATIONS WILL DO THE REST, AND I'LL BE ABLE TO GET AWAY!
FOR TEN YEARS EVER SINCE TETSUYA WAS BORN, I'VE DRESSED UP LIKE THIS AND HAVE NEVER BEEN SEEN
Hmmh. I'm already very experienced
HUH? YOU DON'T LET TETSUYA SEE?
Why?
I'M OBVIOUSLY A FAKE, SO HOW COULD I LET THEM SEE ME LIKE THIS?!
ARE YOU CRAZY?! SANTA CLAUS IS A MERRY FAT OLD MAN WITH A BUSHY WHITE BEARD!
From any other perspective, he's making himself happy.
...REALLY.
Ah, sorry!
IT DOESN'T MATTER.
IT'S FINE AS LONG AS THEY'RE HAPPY.
This should be enough.
I see.
So that's how it is.
BUT, IT'S A PITY, ISN'T IT? YOU PUT ALL THAT EFFORT INTO THIS COSTUME...
That's definitely Sawa's style—
HE'S SO CHARMING!






I KNEW THEY DIDN'T COME HERE FOR A PRE-MARRIAGE VACATION!
REALLY?!
PRE PRE-MARRIAGE...?
What's that supposed to mean?
So she isn't out of my league!
HUH?

*SOME SORT OF PUN IN JAPANESE

*SATO-KUN IS SLANG (MALE FORM) FOR "ARUBAITO", WHICH MEANS PART-TIME WORKER.
I THINK...
It should be like this
Ho ho ho
*SATO-KUN'S IMPRESSION OF SANTA CLAUS
Ho ho
DEFINITELY
A CHIMNEY
Is there a chu-chu here?
CHU CHU?
Yeah, yeah!
Chu-chu, chu-chu!
AYA-CHAN, IT'S NOT CHU-CHU, IT'S CHIMNEY!!
You forgot again!
HUG
THERE SHOULD BE A CHIMNEY HERE FOR SANTA CLAUS TO GET THROUGH, RIGHT?
IF NOT, THEN WE'LL OPEN A WINDOW
Right?
Heh heh
AH— YEAH.

SO THAT'S IT.
わくわくわく
SFX: EXCITED
WILL THAT DO?
UM
ドキドキ
SFX: THUMP
!!!
Waa
I SAID IT'LL BE FINE!!
UGH
HURRY UP AND GO TO SLEEP!!
I hate kids!
That's how it is.
OF COURSE IT'LL BE FINE! DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE HIM!
Don't look at me like that!
WILL IT REALLY BE OKAY?

ZZ
WOW, IT SEEMS LIKE YOU STILL BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS!
That's so cute...
HE'S ALWAYS BEEN THERE
OPENS EYES
HEY, KID...
Really
UH, I DIDN'T MEAN ANYTHING BY THAT. I JUST ENVIED YOU.
Don't misunderstand
ANGRY
OF COURSE SANTA CLAUS EXISTS!
I WRITE A LETTER TO HIM EVERY YEAR, AND HE ALWAYS REPLIES.
Here,
You see?!
AH... THAT'S RIGHT...
WHAT SHOULD I DO... I'M SO DEAD
DAD SAID THAT IF I'M NAUGHTY, SANTA WILL KNOW!
SILENCE
You were naughty?
You

OK,
OKAY, YOU'RE RIGHT.
Don't get so worked up
OF COURSE SANTA CLAUS IS REAL! HE'S REAL!
I KNOW.
Don't make any noise
DON'T FORGET, BE CAREFUL.
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'VE GROWN UP, SO YOU CAN'T SEE SANTA ANYMORE!
WAA ~~!!
Spare me.
CLATTER
HE'LL DEFINITELY COME TONIGHT!
ALRIGHT, THEY SHOULD BE ASLEEP BY NOW
Let's go!
WOW! YOU'RE SO PREPARED!
You've thought of everything!

The third volume. It's hard to believe 3 that's my favorite number, so I'm especially touched by the publication of this volume. Watching myself come this far is the product of sweat and blood. It's quite an extraordinary feeling. Wow.

The character on the cover is Aki. In this order, the next character to appear on the cover should be Aya. I draw a lot of random sketches but I'm not sure how a finished picture will turn out. :)

To get back on topic, I wonder how everyone feels about Christmas. Did I shatter some illusions? (It seems sort of dreamlike~) Actually, up until 5th grade, I believed in Santa Claus. Of course, after I found out I cried and threw a terrible tantrum.

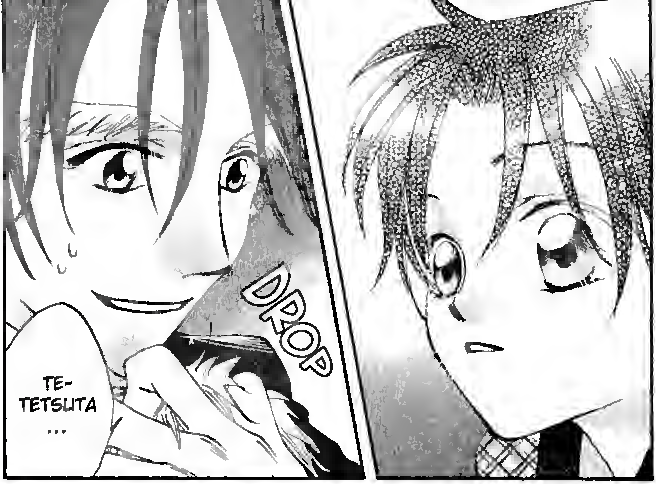
I thought: Why would it was Santa Claus weird! give me a book about Ikkyu the Little Monk* ~~~?!

WAAAAAAH

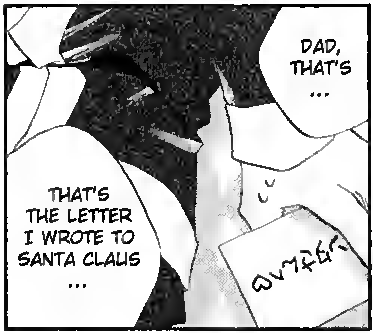
And it was a second-hand copy

*Ikkyu the Little Monk is a very popular cartoon series in Japan about a little monk boy who is very wise.

IT'S REALLY SANTA CLAUS !!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO? WHAT SHOULD I DO?
This is the first time he's seen one in 10 years!
SLIP
WOW, SANTA CLAUS! ♡♡ I finally got to meet you!
GRAB
WHOA
AKI-CHAN! WERE YOU THE ONE THAT BROUGHT SANTA HERE?!
SO THAT'S IT! SENPAI DRESSED UP LIKE THAT IN CASE SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENED!
That's great
YEAH! ♡
YOU SEE, HE'S REAL!
YOU SEE?!
OKAY, I WAS ABLE TO PROTECT MY IDENTITY.
NOW I JUST NEED TO DROP OF THE PRESENTS!
Okay!
... I SAW.


DROP
TE-TETSUTA ...

IT'S A DISGUISE!!
THEY HAVE CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES LIKE THIS!!
You can pull it off!
Good luck, Servant
AH... THIS.. THIS IS...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, DAD?


DAD, THAT'S ...
THAT'S THE LETTER I WROTE TO SANTA CLAUS ...

... DISGUISE
THAT'S RIGHT. THE REAL SANTA WOULD NEVER LET ANYONE SEE HIM
HE ONLY COMES VERY LATE AT NIGHT!

HUH?
LISTEN TO ME, TETSUTA.
SANTA CLAUS ENTRUSTED YOUR FATHER WITH THAT LETTER.
YOU DON'T NEED TO SAY IT!
SANTA CLAUS DOESN'T EVEN EXIST, DOES HE?
We're doomed
Wha-t-
It's over
SNAP
YOU GUYS WERE WORKING TOGETHER TO FOOL ME.
TETSUTA...
IT'S HORRIBLE!
I'M SORRY! IT'S ALL MY FAULT!!
TETSUTA!
BANG

I ACCIDENTALLY TOLD HIM A WHILE AGO.
I'M SORRY!!
...
BUT THIS ... IS A VERY SERIOUS MATTER
Ugh
SENPAI ...
FORGET IT.
THIS DAY WOULD HAVE COME SOONER OR LATER.
I THOUGHT THE MOST HE WOULD DO WAS IGNORE ME FOR A WHILE...

DON'T THINK THAT WAY. YOUR FEELINGS ...
WILL DEFINITELY GET THROUGH TO THAT CHILD.
I'LL GO LOOK OVER THERE
HEY! TETSUTA!
TETSUTA!
TETSUTA!
Achoo
Pant
HEY! TETSUTA!
SO THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE!

ARE YOU STUPID? THERE'S NO SUCH PERSON AS SANTA CLAUS!
Heh, heh.
ARE YOU WAITING FOR THE OLD MAN?
CREAK
AH, THIS PLACE...
THIS IS WHERE I TOLD HIM THE CHIMNEY WAS...
Sniff
THIS LITTLE BRAT!
WHY DO ADULTS HAVE TO LIE LIKE THAT?
TEARS
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN FOOLED
IF I THOUGHT ABOUT IT MORE CAREFULLY, I WOULD'VE REALIZED THAT SANTA COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND JAPANESE
BESIDES HE COULDN'T HAVE KNOWN THE SECRETS I SHARED WITH DAD
AND THIS ...
RUSTLE
Tetsuta-kun,
Thank you for the handkerchief.
Throughout this year, I saw
25th
fun
next
Haha
IT'S OBVIOUSLY DAD'S HAND-WRITING...

IT'S VERY AMUSING TO MESS WITH THEM.
!!
YUP, LYING COMES AS EASILY TO ADULTS AS EATING.
KIDS ARE PARTICULARLY EASY TO FOOL BECAUSE THEY'RE SO GULLIBLE.
DAD DID THAT SO HE WOULDN'T DISAPPOINT ME...
DAD ISN'T LIKE THAT!
I..
MAY NOT FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR FAMILY,
HOWEVER..
THAT'S RIGHT.
WHY DIDN'T YOU THINK THAT WAY?
SO...

I CAN ASSURE YOU THAT YOU ARE THEIR MOST BELOVED TREASURE.
TETSUTA!
DAD
AKI-CHAN
WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP THERE?
IT'S TOO DANGEROUS! HURRY UP AND COME DOWN!
YOU HAVE A WONDERFUL FAMILY.
leans
forward

TETSUTA!
JUMP
ACK!
SFX THUD
とと
あッ

... I'M SORRY
HUH? TETSUTA ...
I DIDN'T TELL YOU TO JUMP ...
YOU SCARED ME TO DEATH. I TOLD YOU TO COME DOWN.
GR
AB
WAH! REALLY! TETSUTA, YOUR HANDS ARE FREEZING!
WHY ARE YOUR HANDS SO COLD?
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR ME FOR A LONG TIME
DAD AND AKI-CHAN'S HANDS ARE COLDER THAN MINE
WEARING A PAJAMA OUTSIDE WHEN IT'S SO COLD ...
YOU'RE GOING TO CATCH A COLD!

I GUESS IT WAS ONLY TO BE EXPECTED THAT YOU'D REACT THIS WAY.
YOU'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED SO DEEPLY IN SANTA CLAUS,
HUFF
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
I SHOULDN'T HAVE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THAT
DAD, I'M SORRY...

BUT WHEN I REALIZED THAT THE ONE WHO TOOK CARE OF ME FOR SO LONG WAS DAD,
YEAH... IT'S VERY DISHEARTENING TO REALIZE THAT THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS IN THIS WORLD.
I FEEL VERY HAPPY.
It's much better than a Santa that I don't know

HUG
Whoa!
I'm gonna smother!!
... THANK YOU ...
IN A FIELD OF WHITE SNOW, THERE WAS A LONELY LITTLE COTTAGE.
That night I had a dream.
Heh heh

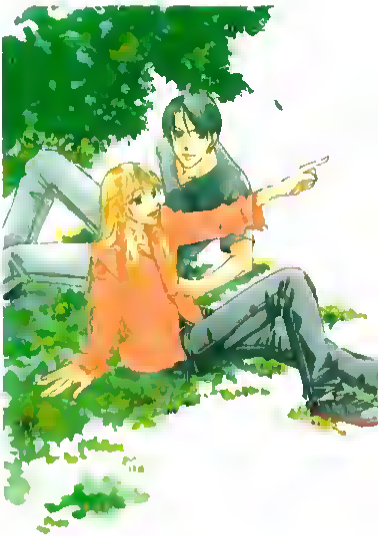
THERE WERE THREE SANTAS WAITING FOR ME.
WHEN I FINALLY OPENED THE DOOR,
INSIDE
GETS UP
HMM
CHIRP

DAD,
AKI-CHAN.
...TETSUTA.

*OH OH OH OH
Behold the shiny light!
I surrender!
Aya-chan loves it!
AYA-CHAN REALLY LIKES THAT TOY.
Ah ♥
THAT'S GREAT, AYA-CHAN
Yup ♥
SO I WROTE A LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS!
I'm tell you guys!
I've always wanted this! ♥
TO THANK SANTA FOR THE PRESENT!
DAD WAS THE ONE WHO GOT IT
MORNING.

What?!
AYA-CHAN,
SANTA COULDN'T POSSIBLY HAVE RECEIVE YOUR LETTER.
GRIN
...T-TETSUYA ...
WHY NOT ...?!
The top part is blank!
BECAUSE,
YOU DIDN'T WRITE WHO IT WAS FOR!
!!
Sometimes lies are necessary.

Everyone's waiting for you guys—
Come here again next time
I'm sure about it now.
However, a lie like this isn't bad.
SFX. FOLLOW
It's not easy being an adult!
HEY! BAITO-KUN!
THE GUESTS IN THE MAPLE ROOM ARE LEAVING
Go see them off!
AH, OKAY
DON'T BE SILLY.
THEY'RE BOTH MEN
KYAAA
KYAA
THE FEELINGS BETWEEN THEM IS REALLY GOOD... I GUESS THEY ARE A MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN
Him
WHAT ?!
Didn't you see those girls eyes glitter?
Huh?
ON MY TENTH CHRISTMAS,
Bye bye
See you next year
Hey! It's the Big brother!
Who—?!
I BECAME ONE STEP CLOSER TO ADULTHOOD.



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Fujiwara Kiyo

3

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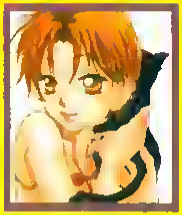

The close-knit Akechi family is off to the hot springs to celebrate Tetsuta's birthday and Christmas. On the night Tetsuta turns ten, he sees his favorite legendary figure, Santa Claus! But Santa Claus's true identity is none other than?! Later, as Tetsuta and his father go New Year shopping, they run into Aki-chan's old high school classmate, Yanagi! And upon seeing Aki-chan, he...

Boku wa ne

I no longer remember the reason for our quarrel.

Just one thing still resides in my mind—

Forgive.

Tetsuta,

Sorry, it's all Daddy's fault
Don't be mad at Daddy any more

sigh

rustle

lick

Then, will you make up with Daddy?

Tetsu-
Ta-

Dap

Wow!
OOH
AAH
HUMMM
HUMMM
THE STREETS ON OOMISOKA SURE ARE CROWDED.
Everyone's squished against everyone else.
THAT'S BECAUSE TOMORROW IS NEW YEARS!
YEAH, DAD! LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT IT!
ARE YOU EXCITED?

I really can't wait!
I WILL! I HAVE EVERYONE WITH ME!
MY BIGGEST DREAM IS TO CURL UP AROUND A KOTATSU WHILE EATING TOSHI-KOSHI SOBA,
AND WATCH KOUHAKU UTA GASSEN WAITING UNTIL 12 AND THEN GREETING EACH OTHER A HAPPY NEW YEAR!
Oh, I see.
Then you must try your hardest this year
CHANCES ARE THIS CHILD WON'T GROW UP TO BE TOO GREAT
Such an ordinary dream!
>See Cultural Notes page<
TETSUTA, SHALL WE GET SOME JUICE?
EH? BUT AKI-CHAN IS WAITING FOR US AT HOME
DOESN'T MATTER!
SLAP
IT'S GREAT WHEN WE'RE ALL TOGETHER, BUT ONCE IN A WHILE JUST TWO PEOPLE
OH! I GET IT!
YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO HELP EVERYONE CLEAN UP, RIGHT?
How could you let Aki-chan do it alone?
You right can't wasn't I?
I was that
...
I JUST WANT ED TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH HIM, BUT I GET MISTAKEN FOR BEING MEAN AND LAZY
Yes
excited
very happy
You Bastard!
We're Finished!
HERE...
WAH, THERE'S A GOOD SHOP

Welcome.
GLARE
EXCUSE ME
EX...
AH! THA...
What type of
FLINCH
welcome is this?!
AREN'T YOU AKEQHI-SENPAI?
...SENPAI?
YES, AKI-CHAN IS STILL WAITING FOR US!
UH... LET'S GO HOME...

Whew...
SO SLOW...
WHERE ON EARTH DID THOSE TWO GO?
They said they'd be back by noon!
Huh?!
WELL...
LAST YEAR'S DISHES WEREN'T VERY GOOD, SO I MIGHT AS WELL NOT MAKE IT THIS YEAR.
WHAT'S WRONG, AKI-AKI?
What to do about what?
HMM... WHAT SHOULD I PREPARE THIS YEAR?
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE...
MY COOKING SKILLS ARE NOT GOOD ENOUGH?

I... I'M SORRY!
Uh-Oh!
Youre not hurt are you?
IT'S OKAY,
I WAS GOING TO RE-SORT THEM ANYWAYS
clang
ACK!
AKI-AKI!
AKI-AKI! THAT'S NOT TRUE!
EVERYONE LIKED THE ONE WITH CHESTNUTS IN IT!
OKAY, THEN I'LL MAKE THAT ONE.
Kurikinton
AH, THESE ARE PICTURES FROM HIGH SCHOOL HOW NOSTALGIC.
THIS IS... YANAGI.
TOOK CARE?
I DID?
HUH?
IF YOU DON'T REMEMBER, THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER
What? What? What? What? What?
YES.
AT THAT TIME, SHINJI AKECHI-SENPAI OFTEN TOOK CARE OF US.
YANAGI...
AH! AS IN AKI'S CLASSMATE YANAGI?!

OH YES, THAT'S RIGHT... THERE WAS SUCH A THING...
I remember now.
WHO ALSO DRAGGED ME IN, BECAUSE I CAN'T STAND TO WATCH WHILE SOMEONE NEEDED HELP!
I forgot because I wasn't directly harmed.
HA HA HA
Totally doesn't care
YOU FORCED AKI-CHAN TO DO ALL YOUR HOMEWORK ESSAYS!
HOW VERY NOSTALGIC
STRANGE, DAD.
SEEMS VERY HAPPY?
It wasn't completely my fault was it?
Was it?
The trouble Kobayashi Akiko went through was all your fault!
Oh, so he was Dad and Aki-chan's friend.
HE'S AT OUR HOUSE
WELL, AKI-CHAN...
WE LOST TOUCH AFTER GRADUATION...
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE IS NOW
AKI-CHAN?
Aki-chi it's us yoo!!

!
WHAT?
WE'RE CURRENTLY LIVING UNDER THE SAME ROOF.
Ah, Right Tetsuto?
WHAT?
YEP ♡
slurp
YOU GUYS HAVE A SENPAI-KOUHAI RELATION-SHIP,
YET KEPT IN TOUCH FROM HIGH SCHOOL UP UNTIL NOW.
NOTHING. I JUST FIND IT RATHER HARD TO BELIEVE.
YES, IT'S A RARE SIGHT.
NOT JUST RARE. IT'S PRATI-CALLY UNHEARD OF
IF THEY WERE NOR-MAL PEOPLE, THEY WOULD HAVE GONE SEPARATE WAYS A LONG TIME AGO!
YOU GUYS WILL BREAK UP SOONER OR LATER.
buhuh
SMA

THAT STUPID GOOD-FOR-NOTHING BASTARD! I KNEW THAT GUY HAD SEVERE IMMORALITY ISSUES LONG AGO, BUT WHO WOULD HAVE THOUGHT THAT EVEN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, NOT ONLY HAD HE NOT CHANGED FOR THE BETTER, BUT HE'S BECOME EVEN WORSE!!!
Honestly! He'll never change!
!?
STEP
WOW, IT REALLY IS NOSTALGIC!
AKI-AKI, WHO IS HE?
HIS NAME IS YANAGI WE WERE CLASSMATES FOR THREE YEARS!
WAS HE VERY MEAN?
Haha
HE LOOKS MEAN, BUT HE'S ACTUALLY NOT A BAD PERSON.
BUT HE'S VERY RUDE, AND NEVER KNOWS WHEN TO STOP, SO HE UNCONSCIOUSLY MADE A LOT OF ENEMIES, INCLUDING A CERTAIN SENPAI—
HOW COMPLETELY ANNOYING!!!
oh dear...
BANG
SENPAI, WHAT'S WRONG?
!!!
...

EH? ARE YOU GUYS TALKING ABOUT YANAGI?
WE JUST SAW HIM IN THE COFFEE SHOP BESIDES THE FLOWER SHOP!
AH, IT'S HIM!
Don't say that name!
GOD! WHY DID THIS GUY APPEAR AGAIN?!
ARGH DAD WHY DID YOU HAVE TO WALK SO FAST...?
FLUFF FLUFF
TETSUTA, WHAT HAPPENED?
YES, HIS FACE WAS LIKE THIS,
WITH AN EVIL SMILE
HE HAD A COLD SMILE ON ONE HAND AND A LOOK OF MOCKERY ON THE OTHER!
YANAGI IS NEARBY!
I WANT TO SEE HIM!
THAT GUY IS REALLY OUT OF ORDER.
WHO CARES ABOUT WHAT HE SAID WE'LL NEVER BE APART
YANAGI

EH?!
I'M GOING TO SEE HIM.
I'LL BE BACK SOON.
WAIT...
WAIT A MINUTE! WHAT'S THAT BAG FOR?!
Aki-chan!
Aki-chan!
WHAT?! AKI-CHAN! YOU'RE GOING TO GO STAY WITH HIM?!
Ba-bump Ba-bump
HAVE YOU DECIDED TO GO STAY WITH HIM?
EH?
YOU DO YOU MEAN THIS...?
YOU
WHY?
TOMORROW IS NEW YEARS, YOU KNOW!
YEAH I KNOW.
Then you're
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING, OF COURSE

We will never be apart.
YOU GUYS...
ALL REFUSED TO EAT MY OSECHI RYORI!
BECAUSE...
Even if the sky collapsed...
I've always believed that so deeply.
But...
OSECHI RYORI?
Won't be separated...
Tetsuta, have you ever tried osechi ryori before?
Not even something similar?
No because Dad doesn't know how to make one.
Even if we ate one when we were young, don't remember.
HE SAID WE DIDN'T EAT HIS OSECHI RYORI...
WELL, WE DID EAT IT, BUT...
WHO STILL WALKS OUT BECAUSE OF A GRUDGE FROM A YEAR AGO?!
DAD!!!
He left! Aki-chan really left!

So this is osechi ryori.
Wow!!!
Here, have a taste. Ta-Da
This was my first time making it too!
This dish is...?
It's called sake kasu. It's actually salmon!
When you eat it, you'll receive good luck next year
Sake, kuromame, and gomame are compulsory dishes for oomisoka!
That way the gods will bless our family with peace and prosperity.
Also there's kombumaki, which will make you happy.
Shrimp and sea bream will make you prosperous!
And if you drink ozoni, it will cure all sickness and receive a virtuous life!
I NEVER HAD MUCH FAITH IN OSECHI RYORI,
BUT THERE WAS JUST SO MUCH FOOD THAT I DIDN'T DARE TO EAT!
IT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH AKI-CHAN'S COOKING!
AH THAT'S RIGHT WE ATE IT FOR 3 DAYS STRAIGHT
AND IN THE END I COULDN'T EVEN BEAR TO SWALLOW ANY MORE I remember now
Crap
And over here is kazunoko, tori, datemaki, yakizakana, konnyaku, and some seaweed tea to guarantee a year's peace and health.
I'm full

AKI-AKI WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED...
BECAUSE HE THOUGHT WE DIDN'T LIKE IT
YOU GUYS HAVEN'T EATEN IT BEFORE, HAVE YOU?
He made them especially for us, and yet we...
NO WONDER HE WOULD LEAVE...
HE MUST NOT WANT TO SPEND NEW YEARS WITH US ANYMORE..
!
LET'S GO AND APOLO-GIZE
BUT...
YOU DON'T WANT TO SPEND OOMISOKA LIKE THIS EITHER, RIGHT?
WE MUST
DAD...
ALL WELCOME NEW YEARS TOGETHER.

WELCOME.
MURMUR
DING DONG
IT SHOULD BE HERE
...YES.
You dare to criticize me?!
HEY! YOU WON'T ATTRACT CUSTOMERS WITH THAT KIND OF UNCARING ATTITUDE.
AKI-CHAN!
That's right.
Wow, it is..
LONG TIME NO SEE, YANAGI. HOW ARE YOU?
OH YES! I CAME BY TODAY TO ASK FOR YOUR HELP.
NO PROBLEM.
YOU OPENED THIS STORE? SENPAI COULDN'T STOP COMPLIMENTING IT!
NO
YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN TALENTED AT MAKING DRINKS

YOU HAVE TO HELP ME WITH SOMETHING FIRST.
SMIRK
Eh? It seems that I haven't even asked yet
!
IF YOU WANT MY HELP, JUST SAY THE WORD. HOWEVER...
Why do I have a bad feeling about this...?
HUH?
Was I too persistent?
FLUTTER
I REFUSE!
FORGET IT THEN.
WHERE IN THE WORLD WOULD SOMEONE FIND SUCH A TRASHY WAITRESS OUTFIT?!
At least let me wear something more normal!
WHO, WHO WOULD WANT TO WEAR SOMETHING LIKE THIS AND WORK AS A WAITRESS IN YOUR STORE?
THE WORST IS SOMEONE STANDING OUTSIDE SHOVELING SNOW.
YOU COULD PROBABLY SIT IN A CORNER AND DRINK COFFEE DURING YOUR BREAK
IT'S JUST THAT I'M SHORT ON STAFF, MAKING ME CONSTANTLY BUSY...

Please, come in!
Welcome ♡
How old are you?
Hey Miss! You're pretty cute!
Hello
GAP
However, I really am sorry but since he flirts him so, well, I'll leave him to it
THIS GUY HASN'T IMPROVED AT ALL...
There are a lot of sad people in the world
IF HE DOESN'T CHANGE HIS ATTITUDE, HE'LL SURELY GET TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF.
Always the same tactic
I'M SAYING THIS IN ADVANCE...
I'M ONLY WORKING HERE UNTIL EMIKO COMES BACK.
WHAT? DID I SAY SOMETHING WRONG?

YOU TWO HAD AN ARGUMENT?
THAT'S RIGHT, WE HAD A BIG FIGHT
SHE EVEN SLAPPED ME AND CALLED ME A BASTARD
I REMEMBER IN HIGH SCHOOL THAT YOU SAID YOU TWO WOULD OPEN A SHOP TOGETHER IN THE FUTURE.
DIDN'T YOU TWO OPEN THIS SHOP TOGETHER?
YEAH, I SAID THAT.
DID YOUR DREAM COME TRUE?
YEAH, IT DID.
ALTHOUGH... WE BROKE UP TODAY.
AH, AKI-CHAN,
YOU SAID YOU WERE GOING TO HELP OUT UNTIL EMIKO CAME BACK, RIGHT?
This is for table 8
SHE'S NOT GOING TO COME BACK ANYMORE, SO—
I'LL BE COUNTING ON YOU.
REALIZATION
NO ..NO WAY.. HE SAID HE WAS SHORT ON STAFF
COULD IT BE HE DOESN'T HAVE ANYONE AT ALL?
STOP MESSING AROUND!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
Bang
Wow so refreshing!
Reflex
Welcome!

WHAT TO DO?
AKI-CHAN?
AKI-CHAN?!
What?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
THINGS TURNED OUT LIKE THIS.
CLATTER
Dad!
You! How many times are you gonna to suffer before you learn?
SO SOME-HOW...
WHAT WILL WE DO NOW?
IF IT'S LIKE THIS, YOU WON'T COME BACK EVEN IF WE APOLOGIZE!
A-APOLO-GIZE?
THAT'S RIGHT! EVERYTHING WAS OUR FAULT, WE'RE SORRY!
ARE YOU TWO ARGUING?
SO CAN YOU PLEASE COME BACK WITH...
-US-
This is a public ace yknow!
Can you be more aware of your location when arguing?

That's true if that happens
Daddy Aki-chan is so smart! come home
PIG-HEAD, STOP BEING A &*%$?, HURRY UP AND GO FIND YOUR EX AND MAKE UP!
IF YOU MAKE UP WITH THAT WHAT'S-HER-NAME GIRL, THEN YOU WOULDN'T HAVE THIS PROBLEM!
Pig-headed
OPPOSITELY SPEAKING...
UH-HUH.
Do you mind not yelling so loudly? You have no manners.
WHAT?
WE NEVER SPLIT UP!
DON'T THINK YOUR JACKED-UP WORDS WILL INFLUENCE US!
SEN-PAI...
IT DOESN'T MATTER EVEN IF YOU DON'T MAKE UP; IT'S FINE AS LONG AS AKI-CHAN STAYS HERE FOREVER.
RIGHT, AKI-CHAN? YOU AGREED JUST NOW ANYWAYS.
THIS...!

AH,
I...
I JUST CAME TO RETURN THE UNIFORM.
WAS THE ONE WHO SLAPPED THAT GUY EARLIER!
THIS CURRENT SITUATION...
Unless...
EMIKO...
AH...
NO! YOU'RE MISTAKEN!
WE DIDN'T DO ANYTHING!
RIGHT, YANAGI?

BANG
Hey!
SUCH A CUTE GIRL... CONGRATULATIONS!
IT REALLY...!!!
WAIT A MINUTE!
This is a complete misunderstanding
JUST FORGET IT.
I SAID JUST FORGET IT. I'M NOT LIKE YOU...
JUST FORGET IT?
How can you just forget about it?
YES! THERE'S STILL ENOUGH TIME!
HURRY UP AND RUN AFTER HER!
Quickly!
BEGGING AND PLEADING FOR SOMEONE TO RETURN...! CAN'T DO SOMETHING AS EMBARRASSING AS THAT!
HOW CAN YOU CALL THAT EMBARRASSING?!

BANG
IS THE MOST DISGRACEFUL!
I THINK...
THAT SOMEONE WHO WOULD RATHER KEEP THEIR PRIDE THAN THEIR LOVED ONE...
THAT'S RIGHT.
THE MOST CHERISHED PERSON...
THE MOST LOVED...
IF IT'S SOMEONE YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO GIVE UP NO MATTER WHAT .
Trip
AH!
huff
—IT HURTS
THEN YOU MUST CHASE THEM BACK.
pant
pant

...NO MATTER HOW MANY DIFFICULTIES YOU MAY MEET.
MISS!
I FOUND HER!
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK, KID
FWOOSH

... YANAGI ...
ENOUGH, I'VE ALREADY TRIED MY HARDEST.
DON'T.
PLEASE LET ME GO...
LET ME GO...
...
YOU'RE SO MEAN.
YOU ALWAYS USE A PIECE OF CANDY TO CHEER ME UP.
AND YET YOU NEVER SAY THOSE WORDS...

Come.
Don't be angry!
THIS METHOD IS...
Pop
Tetsuta.
I'm sorry.
AKI-CHAN.
HOW TRULY NOSTALGIC!

WHO WAS "SOMEONE"?
SO I WAS A LITTLE SLOW.
SORRY, I WAS JUST CHANGING.
I COULDN'T HELP IT. IT WAS BECAUSE "SOMEONE" WOULDN'T FORGIVE ME NO MATTER WHAT I SAID!
WHAT?! AKI-CHAN INVENTED IT?
He was the inventor of that method.
the Grandma
DROP
Take it!
Candy...
Don't be angry after you've eaten it though
What?

I'm sorry.
I was also wrong.
Honestly.
pat
pat
P
P
P
P
WHAT? SHE'S YAMAGI'S HIGH SCHOOL CLASS-MATE? THAT MEANS...
EH?
I figured that it works very well on adult people.
ENDED UP PASSING THIS TRICK ONTO ME, WHO WAS STRESSED BECAUSE I JUST HAD AN ARGUMENT WITH YOU AND DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
SO, THE KIND AND CARING AKI-CHAN,
This method actually works!!
Although it's a bit random but
OK
AY
AH, SO IT'S LIKE THIS...
From Aki-chan

Huh?!
YOU'RE BLEEDING.
Yeah, wait a second
Yanagi, that...
Twitch
HEY, BRAT!
WHAT IS IT?
AH, HONESTLY, TETSUTA.
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
THERE'S A FIRST-AID KIT IN THE STORE HURRY UP AND GET SOME BANDAGES
THANK YOU.

THAT'S RIGHT,
I STILL HAVE SOME OTHER STUFF TO FINISH OVER THERE.
THEN, WE'LL ALL GO BACK TO THE STORE FIRST.
TETSUTA, DO YOU NEED DAD TO CARRY YOU?
I'M ABSO-LUTELY FINE!
DON'T WORRY,
MAYBE HE'S ALSO AN EVIL LOOKING GUY WITH A WONDERFUL HEART TOO!
HUG
Shouldn't you be saying something else first?
NO THANKS
I can walk on my own
Um,
How should I say this.
Actually, this is the important thing.
WHAT OTHER STUFF?!
ISN'T THIS OSECHI RYORI?!
THIS...

YANAGI'S COOKING SKILLS ARE AMAZING!
JAPANESE, CHINESE, WESTERN. HE EXCELS AT THEM ALL! WITH HIS TIPS, MY COOKING WILL GO FROM BORING TO HEAVENLY!
THEN WHY ASK HIM?!
Don't underestimate me ♥
Champion
I WANTED TO SAY THAT THIS YEAR'S WILL BE MORE APPETIZING, SO THAT YOU'LL EAT IT.
YEAH
YOU CAME HERE JUST TO ASK HIM HOW TO MAKE DELICIOUS OSECHI RYORI?!
THIS BAG CONTAINS INGREDIENTS AND SPICES.
It was all your crazy imagination.
WHEN DID I SAY I WAS GOING TO STAY OVER-NIGHT?!
SINCE IT'S LIKE THAT, WHY DID YOU WANT TO STAY OVERNIGHT?
OSECHI RYORI CAN ONLY BE EATEN ON THE THREE DAYS AFTER OOMISOKA, OTHERWISE THERE'D BE NO POINT TO IT.
MAKING PROMISES I CAN'T KEEP... HOW DISGRACEFUL IS THAT?!
I DIDN'T WAN TO! WHAT IF MY COOKING ONLY GOT WORSE?!
THEN...
WHY DIDN'T YOU EXPLAIN IT TO US AT FIRST?
Everyone has the right to tell us off. just not you!
Is it?
TETSUTA
AKI-CHAN
WHAT ARE YOU DOING? SO BASICALLY, YOU TWO JUST SERIOUSLY LACK COMMUNI-CATION.
GLOOM

ACTUALLY, IT'S NOT THAT WE DON'T LIKE YOUR COOKING.
JUST...
IT'S JUST A BIT...
TETSUTA
I'VE ONLY MADE HALF OF IT.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY SOME OF THIS FIRST?
HOW IS IT? CAN YOU FINISH ALL OF IT THIS TIME?
BLUSH
I can! ♡
BUSTLE BUSTLE
Helping Aki-chan out
Are, aren't you doing great!
You two
Sigh
EXCELLENT!

Helping Yanagi on this side
It's his one nickel
HEY, YANAGI, HOW SHOULD I FIX THIS GIMLET?
OH.
GIN 45, LIME 15.
I'LL BE TROUBLING YOU ——
OKAY.
.....
WHAT?
Wave Wave
This hostess doesn't have any time right now.
I HEARD FROM AKI-CHAN,
THAT YOUR GIRL-FRIEND, IS OLDER THAN YOU?
GRAB
CAN'T SHE BE?
GLARE
HEH HEH ♡
So that's why you can't let go of that face!
What a cute guy!
YOU'RE CRAZY!
Let go of me!
HEH...

NEE, YANAGI-SAN,
I'M TIRED WILL YOU MAKE ME A CUP OF COFFEE?
NO.
Come on!
Ah, you can pick that one
Kay up now
Try it.
It's just right!
How very un-cute.
O K
THE COFFEE HERE, TASTES VERY GOOD.
STOP
HA HA!
I GET IT! I KNOW YOUR WEAKNESS NOW.
600 YEN.
Ooh
IT'S WAY TOO EARLY FOR YOU TO GO AGAINST ME
It's finished!

We can eat it tomorrow! ♡
Ooh
IT'S COMPLETE! THIS IS WHAT EVERYONE MADE TOGE-THER!
TOMORROW
HEY...
Ta-Da! OSECHI RYORI! ♡
HUH? When did we decide this?
WE'VE GOT TO CURL UP AROUND A KOTATSU AND WATCH KOUHAKU UTA GASSEN WHILE EATING TOSHI-KOSHI SOBA!!!
Kouhaku Uta Gassen finishes in five minutes!
Only 20 more minutes until "tomorrow"
OH CRAP! IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE?!
WHAT?

THIS IS TETSUTA'S BIGGEST DREAM!
MAYBE WE CAN STILL CATCH IT!
TETSUTA, HURRY AND GO PACK UP!
DAD, YOU STILL REMEMBER?
I WAS JUST SAYING IT FOR FUN.
YANAGI, THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP TODAY!
I'LL RETURN THE UNIFORM AFTER I'VE WASHED IT!
COME, TETSUTA.
LET'S GO HOME.
WE'RE GOING HOME.

OH, COUNT DOWN FROM 3.
3
BACK TO OUR HOME.
2
AW, CRAP! WE STILL CAN'T MAKE IT!
SORRY TETSUTA, WE'VE DISAP-POINTED YOU.
AS LONG AS I CAN
HUFF
HUFF
I...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME.
AS LONG AS I CAN BE WITH EVERYONE, THEN I...
THEN I...
1
SPEND SUCH AN IMPORTANT MOMENT WITH THE PEOPLE I LOVE THE MOST, I AM CONTENT.

...
TETSUTA
...
A
HAPPY
NEW YEAR
O
!!
THEN I WILL BE THE LUCKIEST PERSON ON EARTH!
♡
PLEASE LOOK AFTER US THIS YEAR TOO!

Saigo no Shou Scanlations Presents

BOKU WA NE CHAPTER 10

By Fujiwara Kiyo

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Oomisoka

Oomisoka is the last day of the year, New Year's Eve

Kotatsu: a low, wooden frame covered by a blanket with a table top and some sort of heating underneath

Kouhaku Uta Gassen. A popular TV program/singing contest that only broadcasts on Oomisoka. There are two teams, Red (Women) and White (Men).

Foods:

Toshikoshi Soba: buckwheat noodles that are traditionally eaten to celebrate the passing of a year and the beginning on a new one.

Osechi Ryouri:

A lunchbox that is prepared before New Years because no cooking is done for the three days after 1/1

Kombumaki: Kombu (seaweed) stuffed with salmon and wrapped in kampyo (string made from a gourd)

Kuromame. Black beans, they are traditionally eaten to keep a person healthy. One custom is to eat one bean for each year you've been alive.

Kurikinton. Chestnut and sweet potato paste

Shrimp: Represents a long life

Sea bream: For good fortune

Kazunoko. herring roe, tiny fish eggs that have been marinated

Datemaki: sweet fish paste

Gomame. dried and pickled sardines

Buri. Yellow-tail fish

Sake. Salmon

Yakizakana: Grilled fishes

Outoso: Spiced rice wine

Konnyaku. a cake/gel made from konnyaku potatoes

Sago no Shou
presents
Boku wa Ne chapter 11

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BOKU WA NE

Hello everyone! My name is Shinji Tetsuta
It is currently April,
and the season is ...
Spring ♡
has arrived!
LOOK, THE SAKURA BLOSSOMS HAVE BLOOMED BEAUTIFULLY
Wah~ Butterfly~

FAINT...
NOTHING...
TETSUTA, CAN YOU REPEAT THAT PHRASE PLEASE?
RIGHT.
It's so pretty
Ah, it is!
EH?
WHAT'S UP?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU TWO?
Everyone,
Eh?
AKI-CHAN.
GRAB
Eh?
Who are you talking to?
Tetsuta
he is actually most definitely a guy!!!
A whole lot of people wrote in saying he's cute.
RECENTLY BEEN FOR-GETTING THIS FACT AGAIN!!
Aki-chan is so cute—♡
EVERYONE HAS

BUT, I CAN EMPATHISE WITH AKI-CHAN..
TETSUTA —
EMPA-THISE?
A LITTLE JEALOUS
Dad
I'm cute ?
Right
WHY? IF YOU'RE HAPPY THEN YOU'RE HAPPY! WHAT AN UNGRATE-FUL GUY
I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO BE FLATTERED OR INSULTED...
Although it makes me pretty happy
This top is cool enough right...?
DON'T CALL ME CUTE!!!
You really are too cute!!!
GRAB
Yes— But you really are very cute, sorry.
BUT 'HANDSOME' !!!
BECAUSE, THE PRAISE A MAN WANTS TO HEAR IS NOT 'CUTE',

DAD?
WHAT DOES IT MATTER?
Just endure it for a bit.
IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE YOU'RE TALLER THAN ME,
AND YOU'LL BE CALLING ME 'FATHER' INSTEAD...
BESIDES, THE PERIOD THAT SOMEONE CAN ACTUALLY BE REFERRED TO AS CUTE...
PASSES IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE.
RUSTLE
IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE,

WHAT'S WRONG?
Thank you
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
YOU'LL SPREAD YOUR WINGS AND FLY TO A FAR OFF PLACE..
kyo
kyo

AH! THIS ISN'T SAYING I DON'T WANT THOSE TWO TO GROW UP...!
I'd be so happy for them!
I KNOW
OF COURSE NOT.
You worry too much.
SO YOU BECOME MORE EMOTIONAL
MAYBE BECAUSE IT'S SPRING.
DAD—
flo
HERE,
WE HAVE A GIFT FOR YOU!

AKI-CHAN, WHAT ARE WE HAVING FOR DINNER TONIGHT?
AH—
I'M COMPLETELY COVERED IN POLLEN.
TONIGHT—
NO MEANS NO, SO QUIT DAYDREAMING!
BAM
I ALREADY SAID I WOULDN'T TROUBLE FATHER ANYMORE! WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT!
THIS IS YOUR DAUGHTER'S LIFELONG DREAM!
I ALSO THINK THAT.
THAT "TIME WOULD STAND STILL"...
IT'S THE HEART OF ALL PARENTS, JUST WISHING...
hugs tightly
CHEER UP?
HOPING THEY'D GROW, YET ALSO HOPING THEY'D NEVER CHANGE —

YOU TALK BIG, BUT HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THAT YOU'RE STILL ONLY 17? YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW YOUR LIMITS!
I SAID NO SO THAT MEANS NO !!
AD
WIFE, LOCK HER OUT UNTIL SHE REGAINS HER SENSES!
HU-HUS-BAND!
HOW CAN YOU MAKE A LIVING OUT OF TAKING PICTURES!
BANG!
This...
WELL IN THAT CASE I'LL NEVER BOTHER RETURNING ~~~~~!
The people in this neighbourhood don't all think that do they?!
Sister-in-law...
AH
AKECHI-NII
...AND SISTER-IN-LAW
How are you?
My brother? He's doing great!
WHAT'S WRONG? ARGUMENT?
Should you provoke him?
What kind of situation is this?!
HEY MAYUMI, YOUR HOUSEHOLD IS VERY LIVELY!

Daily routine
CLUP
WHO WANTS TO APOLOGISE!
YOU SHOULD HURRY AND APOLOGISE ...
OH DEAR— HOW VERY EMBARRASSING,
PLEASE IGNORE IT, THIS SORT OF THING HAPPENS TO HAVE BECOME A DAILY ROUTINE AT MY HOUSE.
DIDN'T YOU USED TO ADMIRE HIM VERY MUCH?
I HATE HIM THE MOST RIGHT NOW!!!
AND MY BROTHER CAN ONLY STAND BY AND WATCH!
JUST SO HAPPENS MY MOTHER OBEYS HIS VERY COMMAND,
HE DOESN'T THINK ANYTHING I DO IS RIGHT; HE DOESN'T EVEN GIVE ME A CHANCE TO PROVE MYSELF!!!
THAT OLD THICK-HEADED PRICK IS A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME AND SPACE!!!
Shocked
I HATE
HIM THE MOST!

*"HOMEWORK QUESTIONS" AND THIS SOUNDS SIMILAR, SO HE HEARD AND UNDERSTOOD IT WRONG
...
Ahhh-!! Shoot!!
I HAVEN'T YET COMPLETED MY PHOTOGRAPHY HOMEWORK QUESTIONS —
HOW DISTRESSING— I LEFT THE MODEL AT HOME!!! NOW WHAT AM I GOING TO DO~~~?
I can't go back and get it
No, they're similar to study questions —
Rival enemy!... Is that killing bad guys?
TE-TSUTA —
Ah, so she was only talking about studies
shocked
A VERY FAMILIAR EXPRESSION
AN OMINOUS LOOK...
Ah ...
This sentence is ?...
TRUE
ISN'T IT...?
*TRANSLATOR'S NOTE IT IS MEANT AS "SHE REALLY MEANS IT, DOESN'T SHE?"

And so...
FLASH
EXCEL-LENT,
LOOK OVER HERE
C'MON, SMILE!!
KYA
ACTUALLY, THE THEME THIS TIME IS 'LOVE'
SFX. FLASH

I COULDN'T HAVE CHOSEN BETTER MODELS!
LOOK, ALL OF THESE PHOTOS ARE FILLED WITH LOVE ~~~
So cute!
I...
I DON'T WANT TO WEAR THIS
...
TETSUTA, IF YOU DON'T WANT TO DRESS UP LIKE THAT THEN SAY SO...
Daddy ...
How cute~
It suits you two too well
THERE ARE OTHER CLOTHES HERE!
There are still lots more, they're all mummy's old clothes.
How's this one?
WHAT KIND OF LOVE IS THIS...
They should wear this for the next photo!
Next photo!
Lend me another one.
Make sure to shoot more.
Even Aki-chan too...
Complete fulfillment
I REALLY WANT TO DISAGREE
Bunny ears
YES MAYUMI IS VERY TALENTED AT THIS
THE ONLY OLD PROBLEM IS SHE OVERDOES IT A LITTLE.
OLD PROBLEM ...?

SFX SHOCKED
There are loads more here! Look!
Woooow! Awww!
Is it the same
TETSUYA, 1

MY INTENTIONS WERE TO TAKE PHOTOS THAT BRING OUT A PERSON'S NATURAL BEAUTY FROM THE START!
WHICH IS WHY I WANT TO GO ABROAD TO DEVELOP MY SKILLS AFTER GRADUATION.
From, from this young...
ALTHOUGH I HAVE NO MONEY AT THE MOMENT, AND MY ABILITIES AREN'T THAT GREAT,
BUT, SOME DAY I WANT THE WHOLE WORLD TO RECOGNISE AND BE TOUCHED BY MY WORKS.

OH— WHAT AN IMPRESSIVE DREAM—
Advancing internationally!
DREAMING ISN'T ILLEGAL, Y'KNOW?!
Oh— very admirable.
And also got jobs everywhere!
I even worked my butt off to study English!
DREAMS ...
YET NOT ONE OF THEM ACTUALLY TRIED WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT TO CHASE IT LIKE YOU.
I'VE SEEN MANY PEOPLE WHO'VE HAD DREAMS,
I could probably be class president!
I want to be a pirate!
I want to marry Aki-chan!
actually makes one a little embarrassed.
EH?
SERIOUSLY?
To be complimented to my face
THAT'S... TOO IMPRESSIVE !!!
I'VE ALWAYS FELT..
THEY'RE AMAZING!
OF COURSE I'M SERIOUS

DO YOUR BEST!
DADDY, LET'S CHEER HER ON TOO!
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT —
ONEE-CHAN IS AMAZING —
YES—
SFX. SNAP

How can you make a living out of taking pictures!
CAN'T THEY UNDERSTAND?
THAT KIND OF FAMILY ...
I ALSO
SAID THAT TO MY DAD
WHY...
IS ONE I CAN'T STAND AT ALL
YOU. WHAT ARE YOU UP TO?
THEN —
AH.
IT'S ALREADY THIS LATE, TIME TO GO HOME
AH ...
EH?
OH YEAH ...
UHHHH ...
PLEASE, LET ME STAY FOR THE NIGHT~~~
YOU CAN'T!

I had 5 extra pages last time... There are 16 pages this time...
(Whoa...)
After thinking about it for a long time, I decided to make Aya-chan the main character for this side story.
Before deciding, I asked my fans to write letters to me, and vote in the poll "your favorite character". Tetsuta and Aya were pretty much tied... (Of course, Aki-chan came in first, and Dad was one vote behind...)
But since I've focused on the others already, I settled on Aya-chan.
Some people sent their letters to the wrong address. Please send them to
〒101-0067
神田小川町3-7-7
Hakuensha
Hana to Yume branch
Fujiwara Kiyo
For some reason, a lot of people wrote "Hanamaru". It's Hana to Yume—!!
YOU SHOULD GO HOME!
YOU CAN'T,
AKI-CHAN ...
RUB
RUB
HM?
YEAH, EVEN THOUGH SHE AND HER FAMILY ARGUE A LOT, THEY JUST LEAVE IT AFTER-WARDS.
WILL ONEE-CHAN... BE ALRIGHT?
DADDY

Hm
OKAY—
We've finished washing—
...I THOUGHT AKI-CHAN WOULD HAVE AGREED TO LET...
ONEE-CHAN STAY THE NIGHT
I THOUGHT...
I... No, I never ...!
TETSUTA, DID YOU THINK AKI-CHAN WAS REALLY MEAN AND HARSH?
I THINK
AKI-CHAN'S DECISION WAS RIGHT.
IF SHE JUST LEFT HOME IN ANGER LIKE THAT, AND SEVERED HER TIES WITH HER FAMILY,
SHE WOULD REGRET IT FOR LIFE.
TO RECEIVE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FROM YOUR FAMILY AND TO JUST RUN AWAY FROM HOME ARE TWO VERY DIFFERENT THINGS.

I EXPECT AKI-CHAN
MUST HAVE UNDERSTOOD THIS POINT,
AND SO DENIED HER REQUEST.
BUT ONEE-CHAN CLEARLY USED TO LOVE HER FATHER VERY MUCH!
SO WHY DOES SHE NOW...
Hate him to Death!
WILL I BECOME LIKE THAT TOO?
RUSTLE
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
HOPING TO CHANGE YET ALSO HOPING TO NEVER EVER CHANGE
PAT
DADDY!
. . . ABOUT THAT, MAYBE THAT DAY WILL COME.
HOWEVER, TETSUTA

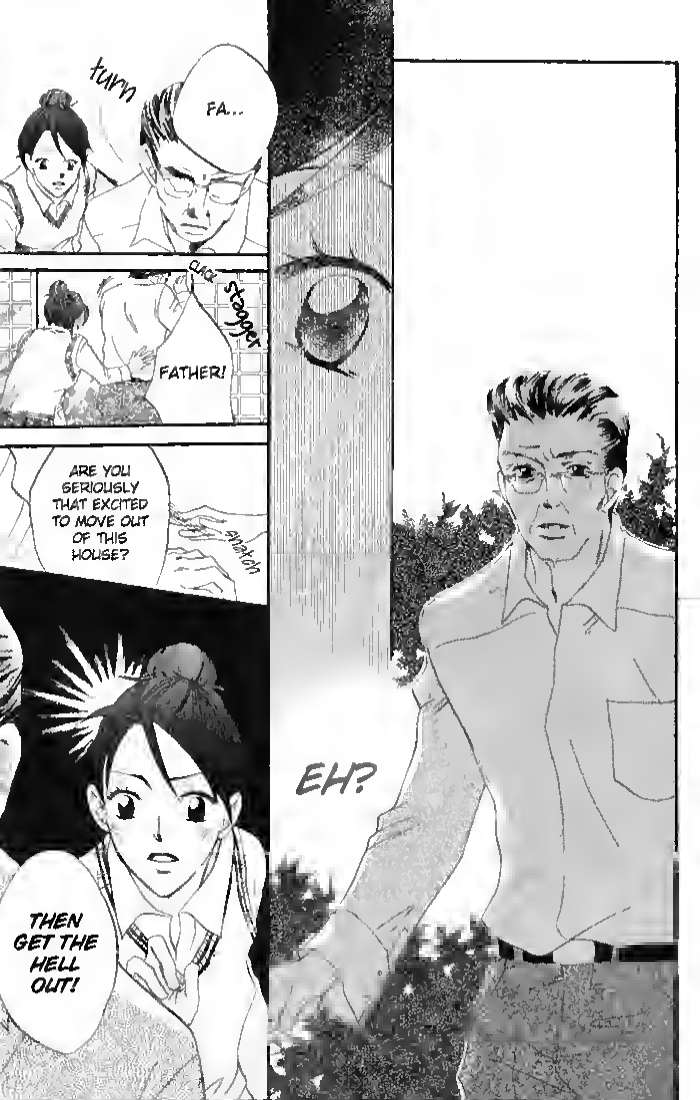
YOU ARE THE ONLY AND MOST PRECIOUS SON I HAVE IN THIS WORLD
AND NOTHING WILL EVER CHANGE THAT FACT.
STEAM
SEMPAI, WE'VE FINISHED WASH..
ING!
GRAB
SFX: THUD
どさっ
!?
SE..
CREAK
SEMPAI?

I wasn't sure
THIS SONG
IT'S THE SONG MUMMY ALWAYS USED TO SING
YES,
Stay together forever
You are always one of the family!
Real promise from childhood
My sweet sweet home
Hands I felt safe
THAT'S RIGHT
BUT DON'T KNOW THE NAME OF THE SONG

COME,
IT'S TIME TO SLEEP
I WANT TO SING THIS SONG TO ONEE-CHAN,
AND HOPE THAT IT WILL REMIND HER ...
IT'S ABOUT HOW A FAMILY WILL ALWAYS STAY TOGETHER FOREVER
TOMOR-ROW ..
OF THOSE LOVING MEMORIES OF THE PAST.
Crap!
I ONLY JUST ENTERED THE HOUSE, AND THE FIRST THING THAT OLD MAN DOES IS SLAP ME ~~~!

TAKEDA,
THE PICTURES YOU TAKE ARE CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVING.
Yeah, come in please
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR ME?
WHY'S HE SUDDENLY LOOKING FOR ME. .
I did take quite a few reserves.
Are you in trouble or some thing?
SWISH
SWISH
HE WAS THE ONE WHO TOLD ME TO GET LOST ~~!!
MAYUMI, HAYASHI-SENSEI IS LOOKING FOR YOU.
AH!
THE MOST RECENT TOPIC WAS PRETTY DECENT TOO.
I REMEMBER YOU WANTED TO GO ABROAD TO STUDY PHOTOGRAPHY AFTER GRADUATION, RIGHT?
FLIP
See!
AH..
YEAH.
TO BE HONEST, THE SCHOOL'S TRANSFER STUDENT PROGRAM CURRENTLY HAS ONE MORE VACANCY
IF YOU HAVE THE DESIRE TO GO, I'VE DECIDED TO RECOMMEND YOU— WHAT DO YOU SAY?
THEN GO FOR IT!

I'M ANOTHER STEP CLOSER TO FULFILLING MY DREAM!
YOU'VE CHANGED YOUR MIND THEN? YOU ACTUALLY DECIDED TO BE GOOD AND COME HOME.
FINALLY CAME BACK TO REALITY FROM YOUR LITTLE FANTASY, DID YOU?
YES !!
SO LUCKY!
I ORIGINALLY WANTED TO WORK TO TRY AND EARN THE MONEY;
I NEVER IMAGINED I COULD BE PART OF A TRANSFER SYSTEM!
AH, THIS MEANS
TWITCH
I KNOW I'VE CAUSED MANY PROBLEMS FOR THE FAMILY, BUT YOU GUYS CAN FINALLY HAVE YOUR PEACE BACK SOON
REALLY?
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU CHANGED FOR THE BETTER
I WANT TO GO!
OF COURSE NOT!
BECAUSE I'M GOING TO EUROPE IN A MONTH
Ah, let's drink this one—
I NEVER THOUGHT IT'D COME EARLIER THAN PLANNED
NOW YOU CAN DO WHAT YOU WANT, AND HAVE YOUR PEACE AT LAST...


FA...
kuuu
FATHER!
staggers
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY THAT EXCITED TO MOVE OUT OF THIS HOUSE?
EH?
THEN GET THE HELL OUT!

FINE, I WILL!
WHO'S SCARED OF YOU!
SORRY! I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TODAY
See you tomorrow!
HEY TETSUTA, SHIMAMURA RECENTLY RELEASED A BATCH OF NEW CARTOON TOYS, WANNA GO HAVE A LOOK?
I HAVE TO HURRY AND SING THAT SONG TO ONEE-CHAN
Bam
AH, IT'S ONEE-CHAN!
ONEE-CHAN ♡
pant
THAT'S STRANGE?
ONEE-CHAN, I...
AH.. TETSUTA.
AH, OH YES, I HAVE TO TELL YOU SOMETHING

I DECIDED TO GO ABROAD TO STUDY AFTER A MONTH.
AFTER A MONTH...
WHY SO SUDDEN...?
DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU'D WAIT TILL AFTER GRADUATION?
THEN, WHAT ABOUT UNCLE?
Get the hell out!
HE TOLD ME ...
TO HURRY UP AND GET THE HELL OUT.
SMILE
HOW COME
YEP, BUT I JUST HAPPENED TO MEET MY LUCKY BREAK!
I REALLY AM TOO LUCKY! ♡

IT'S A COMPLETELY FORCED SMILE.
LIAR!
YOUR CURRENT EXPRESSION ...
IS EXACTLY LIKE THE ONE WHEN YOU SAID YOU HATED UNCLE BEFORE.
I DON'T WANT TO! I CAN'T GET ON WITH THAT OLD BONEHEAD AT ALL!
HE ALWAYS THINKS OF ME AS AN UNACCOMPLISHED LITTLE CHILD WHO CAN'T ACHIEVE ANYTHING!
DADDY AND AKI-CHAN ALSO SAID,
IF IT CONTINUES LIKE THIS, YOU WILL DEFINITELY
REGRET IT!
GO BACK!
PARENTS ARE SUPPOSED TO RESPECT AND ADMIRE THEIR CHILDREN'S GROWTH!
YOU'RE WRONG.

DADDY!
IT'S BECAUSE THEY'RE YOUR PARENTS AND THEY LOVE YOU THAT THEY DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU SUFFER,
SO YOUR FATHER DOES EVERYTHING TO REFUSE
Daddy !?
You're so mean
I'LL PROBABLY END UP BREAKING THEIR LEGS.
ALTHOUGH I CONGRATULATED YOU, CHEERED YOU ON,
BUT, IF THESE TWO KIDS
I'M NOT EXAGGERATING
THINK ABOUT IT. WHAT KIND OF PARENTS WHO KNOW THEIR CHILD WOULD END UP MISERABLE,
CAN STILL JUST SMILE AND SEND THEM ON THEIR WAY?
TOLD ME THEY WANTED TO RUN OFF ABROAD ALONE AT THE AGE OF 17,

EH?
I'M... GOING BACK.
I'VE DECIDED TO PERSUADE THEM UNTIL THEY AGREE.
YES
GOOD LUCK.
THANKS!
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
IT SOUNDS REALLY CLOSE. I WONDER WHOSE HOUSE IT IS?
WHY IS THERE THE SOUND OF AN AMBULANCE?
THAT'S STRANGE. IT STOPPED AT...
ONEE-CHAN'S HOUSE ...
BECAUSE THEY UNDERSTAND MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE,
THAT THEIR CHILDREN HAVE ALREADY BECOME ADULTS.
THEY WILL YEARN TO KEEP YOU JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

That... that's called a camera.
Cameras are really cool things!
It's able to capture a beautiful moment forever.
Mayumi, Mayumi, come, smile for me
click
Daddy, what is that?
DASH
MAYUMI!
FATHER!
I DON'T WANT THAT !!!
DADDY !!!
YOUR FATHER, HE...
AH, MAYUMI, WHERE DID YOU RUN OFF TO!
MUM!
stagger
cut
Fa-ther!
FATHER
I DON'T WANT... I HAVEN'T EVEN HAD TIME TO SAY ANYTHING YET!
ha
ha

YOU CAN'T DIE— !!!
EH? WHO DIED?
DADDY?
Ah!
HOW CAN YOU LIE ON YOUR UNCLE NISHINA'S BODY!
Didn't you know he sprained his waist?!
shake shake
UNCLE NISHINA
YOUR AUNT NISHINA WENT ON VACATION,
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO TAKE HIM TO THE HOSPITAL
...YOU
ARE YOU TRYING TO SCARE ME TO DEATH! STUPID OLD MAN
WHO'RE YOU CALLING OLD MAN —?!

YOU ARE AN OLD MAN!
A RETIRED-THIS-YEAR-AND-DOESN'T-KNOW-WHEN-HE'LL-BE-NAUGHTY OLD MAN!
SHOCKED!
YOU DISRESPECTFUL DAUGHTER
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO HURRY UP AND LEARN TO EARN MY OWN LIVING,
SO, UNTIL I'M STRONG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT YOU,
YOU'RE DEFINITELY NOT ALLOWED TO DIE ~~~~!!!
WITH SUCH AN IMMATURE DAUGHTER LIKE YOU,
HOW CAN I POSSIBLY HAVE THE CONFIDENCE TO DIE!

YOU'RE STILL GOING?
OF COURSE! THIS IS MY DREAM, YOU KNOW!
This is a chance in a lifetime, how can I just let it pass!!
THAT'S GREAT ..
And so,
a month later.
Onee-chan
BUT, HE JUST ABOUT STILL AGREES TO ALLOW MAYUMI TO STUDY ABROAD
She really is thick headed.
He'd rather stay and watch the house.
AH, HE SAID HE WASN'T GOING TO SEND ME OFF.
Where?
SEARCH
THEN, WHERE'S YOU'RE FATHER?
SEARCH
THIS.
YES, IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU GUYS
OH, YES ...
THANK GOODNESS YOU WERE ABLE TO MAKE UP WITH HIM BEFORE YOU LEFT
step
step

?
IT'S ALMOST TIME, I HAVE TO GO
HOPE YOU DON'T MIND.
AH, WAIT A MINUTE! I HAVE A RESENT FOR YOU, TOO
ALL YOUR KINDNESS AND HELP, I WILL FOREVER THANK YOU!
HALF THE REASON I HAVE THE CHANCE TO GO ABROAD THIS TIME IS BECAUSE OF THIS PICTURE ...
CLAP
OOOOH!
Wow!

"Stay together forever
You are always one of the family"

In your hands I felt safe
My sweet, sweet home

"We will stay together forever'
That was a childhood promise
a distant memory

I've got to go,
'cause I'm ready to fly

Warm hands bring me security ...
It is a sweet remiascence

At that time I didn't truly understand the depth of its meaning

But I must leave
Because I have already learnt to fly alone

MISS?
GOOO
TETSUTA — TIME TO GO —
"There is a home waiting for you forever"
You definitely can't go messing around everywhere. When your dream is fulfilled, You must come back to us.
WHAT'S WRONG?
DROPS
MISS ...?
Hold me tight once again
You hold this me in your arms
To Mayumi
'Never forget'
"Remember your home is here"

DREAMS.
HUH..
EH?
DADDY?
DID THEY LEAVE WHILST I WAS DAZING OFF?
LIAR!
DADDY!
AKI-CHAN!

Ah, he's here!
WE'RE GOING HOME NOW, TETSUTA

TETSUTA?
EH?
WHAT'S WRONG? TETSUTA.
There's no need to worry.
time never stops flowing,
and we all grow gradually, day by day.
SO, RIGHT NOW,
LET US JUST FREEZE THIS MOMENT FOR A WHILE!

Sago no Shou
presents
Boku wa Ne chapter 17

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BOKU wa Ne

We're both very busy, and are rarely at home, right? Aki-chan is often very lonely.
So, I will do this.
Come on, we'll each carry one.
RUSTLE
CLANG
IF I DON'T HURRY, I'LL BE LATE FOR THE MEETING WITH TETSUTA AND THE OTHERS.
STEP
STEP
WHOA! I'M LATE!
OH NO! IT'S ALREADY SO LATE!
MOM, THAT'S NOT IT.
THIS ISN'T WHAT I WANT.
THIS ISN'T ...

Still not here!
WHERE HAS THAT AKI GONE OFF TO?!
IT SEEMS HE'S ALREADY LEFT THE HOUSE...
Why isn't he here yet?
HUH?
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN...?!
MAYBE HE'S BEEN PICKED UP!
YOU WATCHED TOO MUCH TV.
PICKED UP?! HE'S A GUY...
ALMOST FORGOT
HUH?
HUH?
HUH?

ACK, IT'S OVER. I'M SUPER LATE NOW.
CLINK
WHERE'S SENPAI?
LOOKS AROUND
EX-CUSE ME ...
SEN...
MISS, YOU DROPPED SOMETHING.
HUH?
AH,
HOW CARELESS OF ME THANK YOU.
WAIT,
I'D LIKE TO TREAT YOU TO A CUP OF COFFEE
EH?
THERE'S A COFFEE SHOP RIGHT IN FRONT OF...
AN SO adorable
are really hopeless.
I HAVE TO GO NOW.
PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME!!

CAN WE GO TOO?
Well —
SFX. GLARE
Well forgive you just because you said "sorry"?
Sorry. I was running late.
FREEZE
SENPAI!

I'M TELLING YOU, ALL THESE OFFERS ARE UNHEALTHY!
AH, IT'S FINE. THIS HAPPENS EVERY TIME I GO OUT.
Every time?!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S STRANGE AT ALL?!
WHY HAVEN'T YOU EVER MENTIONED THIS?!
UH... THERE'S NOT MUCH TO SAY.
BESIDES, I'M A GUY.
I WON'T FALL FOR THAT.
DON'T WORRY.
AND ALSO...

I HAVE YOU GUYS BY MY SIDE
JUST LIKE YOU
I DON'T NEED TO GO WITH OTHER PEOPLE.
YEAH.
You're really cute. Do you wanna go out for a cup of coffee?
Wow
Miss
Heh heh
You definitely can't go off with a stranger!
I WON'T!
It's not safe!
ALRIGHT, WE SHOULD GO NOW
Shopping
OKAY
HUH?
PAT
WHAT?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, AKI-CHAN?

Again?!
Didn't you get it back a moment ago?!
MY NECKLACE... I LOST IT AGAIN.
YOU SHOULD HAVE LOOKED MORE CAREFULLY!
GYA GYA
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I'M SCARED!
I RE-MEMBER PUTTING IT HERE...
THAT'S STRANGE... WHERE DID IT GO?
Ack! There's a hole right here!
Ohno
Ugh!
WHO KNOWS...
IS THERE SOME ACTIVITY GOING ON?
IT'S SO LOUD OVER THERE
COME ON WHY CAN'T YOU BE MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THINGS?
CAN'T YOU SHOW SOME EXPRESSION ON YOUR FACE ONCE IN AWHILE?
Akiko-san what does it look like?
It's about this size
IT'S SO FREAKY WATCHING YOUR EXPRESSION-LESS FACE!
FORGET IT, IT DOESN'T CONCERN US. LET'S GO TO THE RECORDING ROOM.
Recording...
It's pretty far from here. We'd better start walking.
...
Ugh, it really is very far

AH,
IF IT'S LOST, THEN FORGET IT.
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
volunt-tarily help a per-son?
Huh? You would actually
WE LOST A NECK-LACE
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?
HEY!
IT'S FINE, I DON'T REALLY NEED IT ...!
Hey
BESIDES, I WON'T DIE IF I DON'T HAVE IT
If it's lost it's lost
BUT,
IF YOU CARRIED IT ON YOU, THEN IT MUST HAVE BEEN VERY IMPORTANT, RIGHT?

サービスカ
IS IT THIS ONE?
YES...
Let's go!!
Maybe someone else found it already!
That's right!
Things will go faster that way.
Let's ask some other people to help out.
Let's Go——!
RUN RUN
WE REALLY FOUND IT!
WOW!
IT'S FINE. IT WASN'T THAT BIG OF A DEAL
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.
That's great!
Aki-chan!
THANK YOU, SIR!
HUG

FLINCH
WHAT?
GIVE IT TO ME
THE NECK-LACE
IT'S NOTHING
IT'S JUST THAT YOU SMELL REALLY NICE. ARE YOU WEARING COLOGNE?
?
UH..
It's on.
That scene a moment ago
I'm ashamed a little
NO?
I'M SORRY. I SHOULD LEAVE NOW.
AH, THANK YOU.
JUST
LIKE

Aki-chan.
SO,
HE'S CALLED "AKI-CHAN"
...

"IT'S FINE. IT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A DEAL."
Ah, so cool!

NOT AT ALL.
IT WAS A GOOD THING WE FOUND IT.

STEP STEP
I DEFINITELY FORGOT ^^
You completely forgot about me a while ago didn't you?
Really
YOU! WHEN DID YOU LEARN TO FORGET YOUR FRIEND LIKE THAT?

WELL?
ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE UP?
DO YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON HER? Love at first sight?
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO?
SHE'S OLDER THAN US AND APPEARS TO BE MARRIED.

BUT, SINCE I FOUND IT ...
AND I HAVE A REASON FOR US TO MEET AGAIN.
AKI-CHAN, HE...
DAD..
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM?
THAT GOES WITHOUT SAYING.
let's watch TV together
Aki-Aki
HAS BEEN STARING AT THAT NECK-LACE!
SINCE WE GOT HOME UP UNTIL NOW,
STARE

Hey!
BUT THIS ISN'T A NORMAL SHOUJO MANGA, AND BESIDES
Hey Hey!
MAN
THAT'S TRUE
AKI-CHAN CAN'T POSSIBLY START A RELATION-SHIP
IMPOSSIBLE!!
What?!
IT MUST BE LOVE! ♡
THAT'S IT. THIS SORT OF SITUATION IS VERY COMMON IN SHOUJO MANGA!
I've hit bullseye.
GRIN
I FORGOT ...
TO ASK FOR HIS NAME.

I believe you You really will come back to get me?
We'll definitely meet again one day
Don't worry Our love was decided by fate.
THAT'S TRUE ...
WHEW...
Aoi
As long as we're dedicated We will here united one day
Time has no effect on the love between two people.
I'm so glad.
Marie at that time, I will definitely wed you!
WAIT A SECOND! DON'T PANIC! TETSUTA!
Dad!
THINK ABOUT IT! AKI DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HIS NAME OR ADDRESS.
SHAKE
GRAB
THEY COULDN'T POSSIBLY MEET AGAIN!
No way! I won't allow it!
T-TETSUTA ?!
TETSUTA ..
YOU'RE EXAGGE-RATING THINGS TOO MUCH
Huh?
...
AKI-CHAN
YES?

YOU WON'T LEAVE THIS PLACE, WILL YOU?
?
OF COURSE NOT.
OK
HEH HEH ♡
What's the matter?
Me too!
PAT
PAT

ASLEEP?
YEAH.
SENPAI ..
HAPPINESS CAN'T BE SEEN WITH THE HUMAN EYE.
BUT IF IT HAD A TANGIBLE FORM,
IT WOULD LOOK JUST LIKE THIS.
DROOP
HAVING A FAMILY FEELS GREAT
AKI.
SENPAI?

I DON'T THINK YOU'RE AS STRONG AS YOU THINK YOU ARE
IF YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT SOMETHING, TELL US
I..
What ?!
Are you crazy?
I WANT TO HAVE SENPAI'S CHILD
IDIOT.
AND THEN, I WANT TO RAISE IT TO BE AS UNDERSTANDING AS TETSUYA AND AYA.
Having a kid is very complicated.
DON'T YOU HAVE THAT ALREADY?
WE ALREADY ARE A FAMILY
A FAMILY ...
ONCE, I THOUGHT ...
PACHIN

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I LOSE IT,
IT ALWAYS CAME BACK TO ME.
THAT I WOULD NEVER HAVE A REAL FAMILY IN THIS LIFETIME.
AH!

HELLO
AH! YOU'RE FROM YESTERDAY
WHAT A COINCIDENCE! YOU'RE HERE OFTEN. DO YOU LIVE NEARBY?
NO, I LIVE FIVE BUS STOPS AWAY
THEN, DID YOU COME TO PRACTICE YOUR MUSIC?
SEEMS LIKE YOU DIDN'T BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT TODAY.
I CAME TO SEE YOU.
I'VE BEEN WAITING A LONG TIME.
I FINALLY GET TO MEET YOU,
ONII-SAN.*
flash back
BIG BROTHER

Sago no Shou
presents
Boku wa Ne chapter 12b

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DAD MENTIONED IT BEFORE IF I'M A GOOD KID, THEN AKI-CHAN WILL CERTAINLY STAY HERE!
DRAG
DRAG
GO!
THIS SHOULD BE FINE
BEFORE AKI-CHAN GETS HOME, I SHOULD FINISH THE CLEANING AND LAUNDRY
WHAT, THAT SCARED ME! IT WAS JUST THE PICTURE FRAME FALLING DOWN.
WE ABSO-LUTELY CAN'T LOSE AKI-CHAN TO SOMEONE ELSE!
WE SHARE THE SAME BIRTH MOTHER
HOW DID YOU KNOW WHO I WAS...?
MY NAME IS NARASAKI TOMOYA.
LAPUTA

YOUR FACE IS EXACTLY LIKE MOTHER'S WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG.
AND YOU HAVE THE SAME THING.
THIS NECKLACE
OH, SO THAT'S HOW YOU RECOGNIZED ME. THIS DESIGN IS VERY DISTINCTIVE,
PULL
THERE ARE ONLY THREE OF THESE IN THE WORLD, SO YOU MUST'VE RECOGNIZED IT IMMEDIATELY
THAT'S BECAUSE I ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT IT.
NOPE. AFTER THE DIVORCE, I HAVEN'T HAD ANY CONTACT WITH MOTHER.
SO I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT YOU.
DID YOU RECOGNIZE ME?
My identity
BUT YOU HAD A VERY COMFORTABLE SMELL ABOUT YOU.
IF I THOUGHT ABOUT IT MORE CAREFULLY,
I WOULD'VE REALIZED THAT IT WAS MOTHER'S SMELL.

THE SMELL I HAVE NOW
IS MOST LIKELY THAT OF THE AKECHI FAMILY.
WE HAVE THE SAME MOTHER, YOU HAVE IT TOO
THAT USUALLY COMES FROM YOUR FAMILY
I PROBABLY DON'T HAVE IT ANY-MORE
MOther's smell
AKECHI?
IS THAT THE FAMILY YOU WERE WITH YESTERDAY?
YEAH
SMILE
THEY'RE MY FAMILY.

UH, WE DON'T HAVE ANY BLOOD TIES OR ANY-THING
YEAH.
THEY ACCEPTED ME, TREATED ME WARMLY.
I FEEL SO LUCKY EVERYDAY IT SEEMS LIKE A DREAM
... FAMILY?
HOW ABOUT YOU, TOMOYA?
ARE YOU HAPPY?
GRIT
OF COURSE, I'M HAPPY!

SLAM
TOMOYA?
TOMO-YA?
SCREW YOU!
AND YOUR STUPID FACADE OF HAPPINESS!
The more I look the angrier I get!
I'M NOT HUNGRY.
TOMOYA? YOU'RE BACK! DINNER...
BANG
Okay, tomorrow then!
Next time, bring a photo of your wife. I really to see her, okay.
I want to see a photo of you two.
Can you meet up with me to chat another time?
AC-TUALLY...
DON'T CALL ME 'MOM' ANY-MORE.
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
STEP
THAT CHILD HAS BEEN IN A FOUL MOOD RECENTLY.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH TOMOYA?
Happiness?
THE PHOTO THAT LOOKS
THE HAPPIEST ...
PHOTO
It's all a load of crap!
Ugh, I've had enough!

THE WEATHER IS GREAT TODAY!
MORNING, EVERYONE
GOOD MORNING
GOOD MORNING
TE-TSUTA?! WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
IT HAS 100% TO DO WITH HIS FAMILY.
That goes without saying.
SFX: TA-DAH
"YESTERDAY WASN'T A SPECIAL DAY", EH? JUST LISTENING TO HIM MAKES ME.
He usually makes them by hand; it's very rare for him to go out and buy one.
AND YOU'RE STILL SMILING?
It was a large strawberry one!♡
YESTERDAY WASN'T A SPECIAL DAY, BUT AKI-CHAN BOUGHT CAKE FOR US!
THIS TYPE OF CAKE WON'T BE FINISHED UNLESS EVERYONE IN THE FAMILY EATS IT!
Hee, hee, I told you so!
We didn't finish it yesterday, so we'll eat more today!♡
Ah, this guy really is the heir to a rich family.
--- WAS THAT CAKE BOUGHT AT "LE LAPLITA"?
HUH? HOW DID YOU KNOW?

For 2002, I would like to thank all of the following people.
• 山本
• 大越
• 香知
• 坂巻
• 小舎
• 小猫
• 小牛
and
• 小亀
Thank you all! I love you guys to death!
★Other than Ren-chan, and Fuu-chan, all of them are Mo-chan's friends. I'm very sorry
While I'm writing this #seetalk 2002 has not yet ended I don't know what kind of future 2003 will bring to me.
See you guys next time!!
2002.12.
Fujiwara Kiyo
SFX. UWAAAAAAA
うわぁぁぁ
DO OM
AKI-CHAN WAS MEETING WITH A GUY AT LE LAPUTA.
Don't know
What's going on?
What?!
AKI-CHAN
AKI-CHAN
KAI-CHAN?!
What's the matter?
That's not it!!
I don't know. Was he working?! He comes home late all the time.
What happened?
THAT GUY PROPOSED TO HIM.
At that time, I will definitely wed you!
I'm so glad.
I HEARD ...

IT'S TRUE!
THE GUY WHO LOOKED LIKE A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT SAID SO!
PROPOSAL? YOU...
gloom
SHAKE
Impossible
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THAT GUY IS!
HIGH SCHOOL STU-DENT?
TWITCH
THAT GUY PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW AKI-CHAN WAS A GUY.
I THOUGHT SO TOO, SO AFTER THEY PARTED, I FOLLOWED HIM AND TOLD HIM.
BUT HE SAID ...
AND HIS FACE WAS PEN-SIVE.
AKI-CHAN ALSO SAID THAT HE CARED ABOUT HIM,
AND HE SAID THAT THEY'LL BECOME A FAMILY.
HE KNEW HE WAS RIGHT.
YEAH HE SAID THAT THE FIRST TIME HE SAW AKI-CHAN,
SFX: DRAMATIC EFFECT
SIGH
HE'S REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT AKI-CHAN...
SE-RIOUS...
Time has no effect on the love between two people. As long as we're dedicated,
We will be reunited...
Waa waa waa!
WHOA
THAT'S SO FREAKY
...THAT!
IT'S BECAUSE HE'S A GUY THAT I'M INTERESTED

IT'S AKI-CHAN!
AKI-CHAN ...
STEP
Our love was decided by fate.
(Sis! remembers the quotes from the show!)
Sori...sh
HE COULDN'T PLAN ON GETTING MARRIED ...
WHY?! IS IT POSSIBLE THAT THEY MEET UP EVERYDAY?
DASH DASH
YOU STILL HAVEN'T TOLD THEM ABOUT US BEING SIBLINGS?
WHY?
DASH

What?
What's he saying?
No, this isn't important. Right now, what's important is...
Aki-chan has a brother?
NO, THAT'S NOT HOW IT IS ...!
DO YOU FEEL THAT HAVING A HALF-BROTHER IS EMBARRASSING AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE KEEPING MY EXISTENCE A SECRET?
IT REALLY ISN'T...
YEAH. I HAVEN'T TOLD THEM.
Sibling?
Why is something so important ...
IT'S FINE,
I GET IT.
I'M...
BEING KEPT A SECRET FROM US BY AKI-CHAN?

OF COURSE WHEN I FOUND OUT I HAD AN OLDER BROTHER, I DIDN'T SPEND TIME LOOKING FOR YOU IT WAS TOO TROUBLESOME
I UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL
THUMP
I've always
felt insecure.
THUMP
IF IT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU OUT THERE, WHY DON'T YOU COME TO MY HOUSE?
To appease my insecurity, I continually emphasized that we were a family.
So then, our bond would not be severed
IT WOULDN'T BE THAT BIG OF A DEAL, BECAUSE ...
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
THEY'RE ONLY "OUTSIDERS".
PRIVATE FAMILY MATTERS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THEM!

However, those words were only to placate myself!
WE'RE A FAMILY RELATED BY BLOOD!
DA
...THANK YOU.
SU
SFX RAIN
We aren't related by blood.
We don't have that deep of a bond.
from the beginning.
TE-TSUTA?
TE-TSUTA!
YOU CAME OUT TO GREET ME?
TETSU ...
This sort of relation-ship...

COULDN'T POSSIBLY
DAD!
WIN AGAINST A BOND OF FLESH AND BLOOD.
DAD..
FWUMP
ARE YOU FEELING CALMER NOW?
YEAH...
CLICK
SIBLINGS..
FU

MOVE AWAY?
WHY ARE YOU JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS LIKE THAT?

Dad?!
HAHA! THAT'S GREAT! GOOD THING IT WASN'T A LOVER!
BE MORE SERIOUS, WOULD YOU?!
AKI-CHAN SAID HE'LL MOVE AWAY!

THAT SORT OF GUY, WHO APPEARED OUT OF THE BLUE,
COULDN'T POSSIBLY TAKE AKI-CHAN AWAY.

HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALL THE GOOD AND BAD TIMES WE WENT THROUGH TOGETHER?
DON'T YOU FEEL THAT THIS SORT OF BOND IS MUCH STRONGER?
THOSE MEMORIES
CAN'T LOSE TO A BLOOD RELATION-SHIP
BUT WE'RE NOT A REAL FAMILY
SO WHAT?
WE DIDN'T BUILD OUR RELATIONSHIP AROUND A BLOOD TIE

SFX: HUG
ガタ
WHOA!
TETSU ...
I LOVE DAD,
I LOVE YOU THE MOST.
HAVING SUCH AN AWESOME FATHER...
I'M SO LUCKY.
BESIDES, AKI-CHAN ISN'T THAT YOUNG
I DON'T THINK HE WOULD MOVE OUT,
TO LIVE WITH HIS MOTHER AND HER NEW FAMILY!
YANAGI, YOU WERE EAVES-DROPPING?
These drinks are going to be paid by you.
YOU THINK I WANTED TO LISTEN?!
Who told you to come to my store?
I would rather die than treat you.
WHO TOLD AKI-CHAN TO KEEP IT QUIET?

..
THAT GUY IS ALWAYS THE SAME
WHENEVER HE HAS A PROBLEM, HE KEEPS IT TO HIMSELF,
Ah, Sensei, see you tomorrow ~
Kay tomorrow. What do you mean 'see you tomorrow'?! You flat-headed buffoon!
HE NEVER RELIES ON OTHER PEOPLE,
AND STUBBORNLY TRIES TO SOLVE HIS PROBLEMS ALONE
Wha
?!
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE DEVELOPED THIS HABIT.
IT PROBABLY HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH HIS FAMILY SITUATION!
HE SHOULD STUDY THE BEHAVIORS OF A CERTAIN PERSON
THE HARDSHIPS IN A PERSON'S LIFE COMES FROM THEMSELVES
So annoying
IT'S VERY WORRISOME WHEN YOU'RE NOT BY HIS SIDE HELPING HIM.
I...

CAN I DO ANYTHING FOR AKI-CHAN?
... THIS ...
RUSTLE
YOU'RE ..!
I HAVE SOME QUESTIONS I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU.
DING

I..
I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING ABOUT AKI-CHAN.
ASK ME?
IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY, HURRY UP. I HAVE TO MEET UP WITH MY ONII-SAN.
DO YOU CARE ABOUT HIM OR NOT?
CARE ABOUT HIM?
I'VE ALWAYS WANTED A BIG BROTHER.
I..
CAN I DO ANY-THING FOR AKI-CHAN?
All you have to do is like him with all your heart.
... this.
...I...
I LIKE AKI-CHAN THE MOST!
CONCERN-ING THIS, I DEFINITELY WON'T LOSE TO ANYONE.

...thank you.
However...
SENPAI!
WE'RE LEAVING—
SORRY, AYA-CHAN. WE'RE GOING SHOPPING TODAY. YOU'LL HAVE TO STAY AT HOME AND BE A GOOD GIRL!
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
I TOLD YOU.
I STILL HAVE SOME MATTERS TO...
TRUST MORE IN US, WILL YOU?
Sorry.
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE NOT RELATED BY BLOOD,
WE WON'T LOSE TO YOUR REAL FAMILY.

I already have my own home
AKI-CHAN IS A PART OF MY FAMILY!
IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND,
THAT STUBBORN SON OF MINE IS GOING TO INFLICT THE EMOTIONS ON HIMSELF.
AH...
HA...
HA HA HA HA!

Where do you guys get this self-belief? And what of it?

Nothing in the world is unbreakable.

A bunch of lunatics.

I THOUGHT I WOULD HAVE TO SEPAR..TE FROM THEM IF I TOLD THEM.
THAT'S NOT IT. I...HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FRIGHTENED.
AKI-CHAN!
I'M SORRY,
I DIDN'T MEAN TO HURT YOU GUYS, I ONLY THOUGHT ABOUT THIS, SO...
WHAT?!
HOW COULD WE EVER SEPARATE?!
IN-SECURE...?
YES, I JUST KNEW YOU WERE GOING TO SAY THAT, EXCEPT THAT I WAS ...
IN-SECURE ...
I...
HAVE ALWAYS HATED MY FAMILY.

I'm fine. There's nothing wrong with staying home by myself, so don't worry about me.
MY PARENTS WERE ALWAYS ARGUING.
You only care about your work, and leave your child at home alone! What kind of mother are you?!
Why don't you take a look at yourself? At what point have you acted like a model father?
TO EASE THE TENSION BETWEEN MY PARENTS
I TOLD THEM THAT I HOPED THEY WOULD STAY WITH ME MORE OFTEN.
SO THEY GAVE ME THIS
...AKI-CHAN.
Aki dear, you're a strong child, stay with your father, okay?
SHE CAST ME ASIDE
A LITTLE WHILE AFTERWARDS, THEY DIVORCED,
AND MOTHER LEFT THE HOUSE
WATCHING TOMOYA TALKING SO HAPPILY ABOUT HIS OWN FAMILY,
BUT,
I HATE HER,
AND I NEVER WANT TO SEE HER AGAIN IN THIS LIFE-TIME.

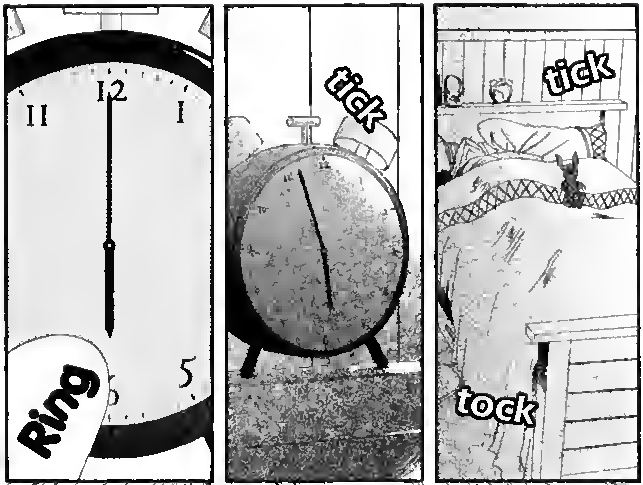
I DON'T WANT TO LET HIM TURN OUT LIKE ME.
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THAT HATRED IN MY HEART HAS BEEN SLOWLY DISSIPATING
I'M VERY GLAD.
I THOUGHT, THIS MUST BE BECAUSE I'VE ALREADY FOUND HAPPINESS, SO...
SCREW YOUR HAPPINESS
SHE DOESN'T EVEN LOVE ME!
OTHERWISE, SHE WOULDN'T CRY!
EVERY NIGHT, SHE'D TURN AWAY FROM US, AND SECRETLY CRY!
SHE'S ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT YOU!!!

FWOOSH
TOMO-YA..
WITHOUT IT, WE WOULDN'T HAVE TO SUFFER!
THROW
IT'S ENTIRELY THIS THING'S FAULT!
TOMO-YA?
SPLASH
I don't know when that dis-quiet began grow-ing in my heart.
THE FACT THAT I WAS LIVING IN ANOTHER PERSON'S SHADOW,
The days pass by so quickly.
You're almost in high school.
THAT IN HER EYES I WAS SOMEONE ELSE
THE MARK LEFT BY THOSE WHO SHARE MY BLOOD.
I'M STILL SO SCARED OF IT!
She never men-tioned it to me,
and I was not brave enou-gh
to ask.
SPLASH
Yuup
Yuup
WHO WANTS TO MESS AROUND WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU!?!
THAT SORT OF SUFFERING ONLY IDIOTS LIKE YOU GUYS WOULDN'T UNDER-STAND!

SPLASH
YOU...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
SPLASH
BUT ...
THAT SORT OF THING SHOULD HAVE BEEN THROWN AWAY A LONG TIME AGO!
THAT'S ...
YOU LOVE IT VERY MUCH, DON'T YOU?
SOMETHING YOUR MOTHER GAVE YOU!
SPLASH
TETSUTA ...
AKI-chan
SPLASH
I'LL HELP YOU.

OH MY,
YOU'RE ALL COVERED IN MUD!
STEP
BANG
TO-MOYA.
WHY ARE YOU HOME SO LATE—?
SHARING THE LOVE WE HAVE FOR AKI-CHAN.
I FOUND IT! ♡
AHA!
rustle
YOU'RE SO TROUBLE-SOME!
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES!
HURRY UP AND TAKE A BATH!
YOU'VE BEEN COMING HOME LATE EVERY NIGHT RECENTLY. IS IT BECAUSE YOU GOT A GIRLFRIEND?
MOM IS WORRIED ABOUT YOU,
Girl-friend ...
!
A BEAUTIFUL PERSON SIMILAR TO YOU.
YEAH ...
I MET
SPLASH
...DAMMIT!
As long as we share this feeling it'll be fine.
OKAY! COUNT ME IN
ME TOO.
I haven't played with water since last summer
SPLASH
We've always been insecure!
But, that doesn't matter.
No, let's look over there!
Is it over there?
But after today, we'll still have the same troubles.

YOU REALLY WON'T GO TO SEE YOUR MOTHER...?
AKI-CHAN.
You have to wipe behind the ears —
THIS IS A WISH FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART.
YOU HAVE TO BE HAPPY.
NOPE, NOT RIGHT NOW..
I WISH THAT THIS FORTUNE WILL COME TRUE.
BUT, ONE DAY,
I HOPE THAT EVERY-ONE I LOVE,
WHEN MY HEART IS CALMER, I WILL GO AND FACE HER.
WILL FIND HAPPINESS.
SEE YOU NEXT VOLUME



Sunday People

BLINK

Mr. Sun is up! ♡
AYA-CHAN,
DADDY'S SOCIAL. NO, DADDY WORKED UNTIL 3AM IN THE MORNING. PLEASE LET ME SLEEP A LITTLE LONGER
OH SPARE ME...
6 O' CLOCK ?
...

Morning, Aya!☆
What a beautiful morning it is!
SFX: SARA GETS UP
THEN DADDY CAN STAY HOME BY HIMSELF
TWIST
WHAT'S GOING ON...?
I DON'T KNOW...
Grin
Grin

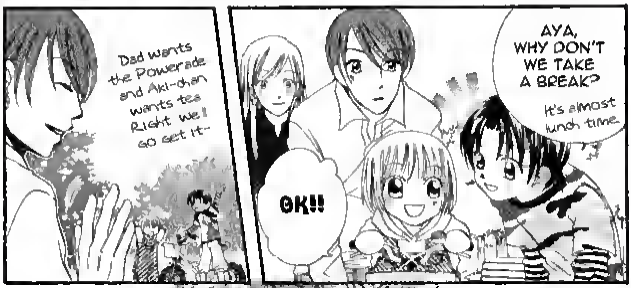
OKAY, LET'S GO!!
CLANK
WAIT A MINUTE, AYA! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
WE'RE NOT EVEN DRESSED YET!
HURRY, HURRY!
You have to take good care of it!
When the weather clears up, we'll go practice together!

SFX: DA <DASH>
glitter
glitter
We're going to change!!
DON'T WOBBLE AROUND!
DON'T...
LOOK FORWARD, FORWARD!
HOLD THE HANDLES TIGHTER!

WOBBLE
WOBBLE AROUND
THE ONE WHO'S WOBBLING AROUND IS DAD!
WOBBLE
It's really dangerous!
I nearly fell.
LET ME DO IT!

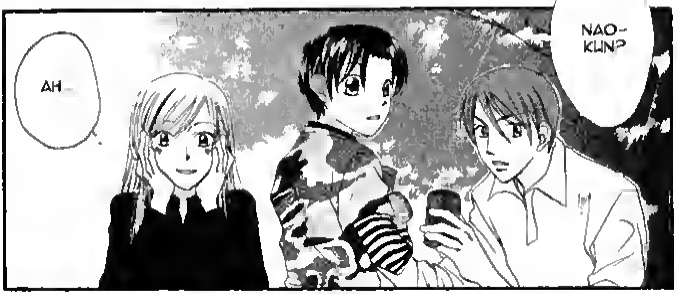
NO,
I WILL

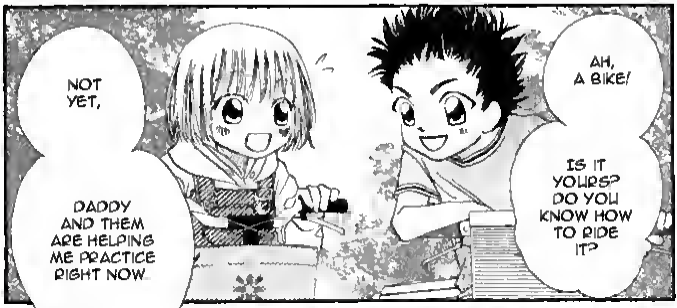
I CAN BEAR IT.


Dad wants the Powerade and Aki-chan wants tea. Right, we'll go get it-
AYA, WHY DON'T WE TAKE A BREAK?
It's almost lunch time.
OK!!

COLLAPSE
ACTUALLY,
AYA'S CONCENTRATING HARD ON LEARNING, AND SHE'S IMPROVING VERY FAST.
Heh heh
YOU'VE WORKED HARD!

YUP, AYA'S FITNESS LEVEL WAS PRETTY GOOD TO BEGIN WITH
Tetsuta is a little inferior though.
Ah-
Much better.
BUT EVER SINCE SHE FELL OVER LAST TIME, SHE'S BEEN RELUCTANT TO BIKE
SO WHY SO SUDDENLY NOW...?
WHAT A COINCI-DENCE!
THAT'S BECAUSE
AYA-CHAN!!
NAO-KUN!


NAO-KUN?
AH...

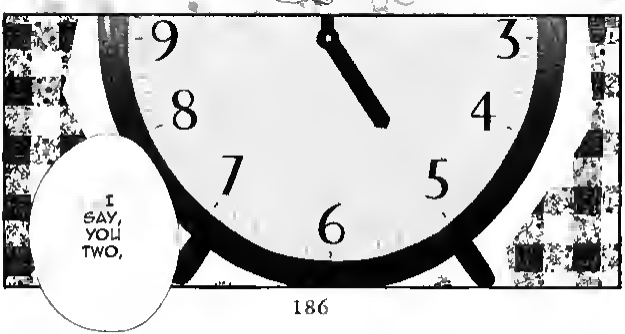

AH, A BIKE!
IS IT YOURS? DO YOU KNOW HOW TO RIDE IT?
NOT YET,
DADDY AND THEM ARE HELPING ME PRACTICE RIGHT NOW.

Daddy, can I go play with Nao-kun?!
Kya♡
WE'LL BE ABLE TO RIDE TOGETHER VERY SOON! ♡

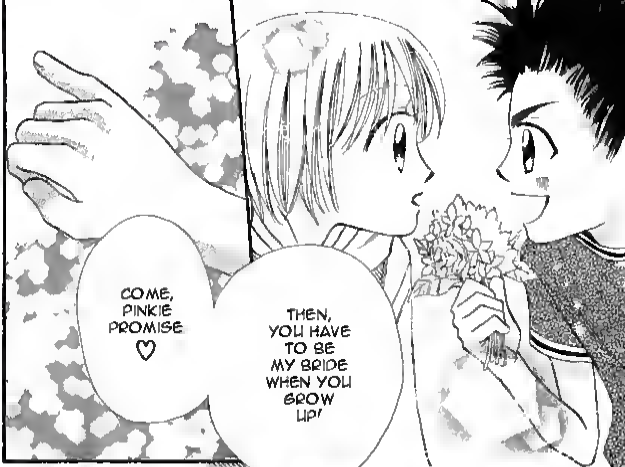
Senjel is great!
So jealous!
DON'T BE LIKE THIS, OKAY?
SO STINGY...
I KILLED MYSELF GETTING UP SO EARLY, BUT I ENDED UP HELPING THAT LITTLE BASTARD...
I SAY...
DID YOU KNOW ALREADY?!
Pu-lease!
THAT BRAT... WHERE DID THAT BRAT COME FROM?!
HE'S AYA-CHAN'S CLASSMATE. THEY'RE REALLY CLOSE.
What brat?
He's a really good kid.
REALLY CLOSE?!
Please!
DON'T TAKE IT THE WRONG WAY...
AYA-CHAN, DO YOU LIKE ME?

SO WHAT IF HE'S IN KINDER-GARTEN? IT WOULDN'T MATTER IF HE WAS STILL BEING WEANED!
HE'S ONLY IN KINDER-GARTEN!
SMASH
I like you! ♡
Calm down!!
Then, do you wanna be my girlfriend?
IF YOU DARE TO TOUCH MY PRECIOUS DAUGHTER, THEN START DIGGING YOUR GRAVE
Wah
yes.

COOL
♡
Uh-oh...


I SAY, YOU TWO,

IT'S ALREADY DARK, SO LET'S HEAD HOME!
NO OTHER CHOICE WHO ASKED ME TO BE SUCH A USELESS FATHER WHO COMPLETELY FORGOT WHAT HE PROMISED HIS DAUGHTER
THE TITLE "DAD" SHOULDN'T EVEN EXIST THEY WORK THEIR BUTTS OFF TO RAISE A PERFECT DAUGHTER, ONLY TO HAVE HER STOLEN AWAY BY AN OUTSIDER
IT'S BETTER TO BE A DAD. AT LEAST YOU GET TO HOLD HER HAND WHEN SHE'S WALKING THE RED CARPET
What's a brother supposed to do?
ARGH, ENOUGH! THE TWO OF YOU, COME WITH ME!
WE NEED TO PICK UP AYA-CHAN!
I'VE ALWAYS REALLY LIKED AYA-CHAN!
YEAH, ME TOO! ♡


THEN, YOU HAVE TO BE MY BRIDE WHEN YOU GROW UP!
COME, PINKIE PROMISE ♡

SWISH
YOU LIKE HOOKING FINGERS? BRING IT ON THEN!
I'M SORRY, I CAN'T PROMISE YOU.
CHA—CHING

Because I'll be Daddy's bride when I grow up. ♡
AH, DADDY! ♡
HIDES
PAT

Sunday People / End

BOKU WA NE

volume 3 sidestory

By Tsuwara Kiyo

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